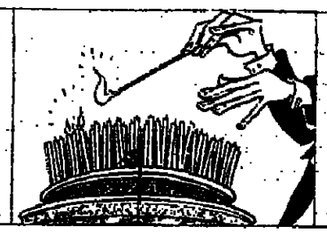


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APPOINTMENTS

Twenty pages of senior and executive opportunities
Special section 3

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THE TIMES

No. 65,258 THURSDAY MAY 4 1995

Violent protest in Londonderry casts a shadow over talks with Republicans

Major visit hit by Sinn Fein rioters

BY NICHOLAS WATT, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERIAL talks with Sinn Fein were thrown into doubt last night after rioting Republicans almost wrecked John Major's visit to Londonderry in the worst outbreak of violence in Northern Ireland since the IRA ceasefire.

Seven policemen were hurt as the rioters tried to keep the Prime Minister out of the city, but Mr Major defied the demonstrators by insisting on going ahead with his visit to the Tower Museum after the streets had been cleared.

Mr Major said that Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein leader, would now have to pledge that his party was committed to democratic politics before he could confirm Wednesday's exploratory talks between Michael Antram, the Northern Ireland Minister, and Martin McGuinness of Sinn Fein.

"Let us see what Sinn Fein have to say. Let us see whether they will unequivocally denounce what has happened or not," Mr Major said. "When we have that sort of information we can make a cool and balanced judgment about whether it is practical for these talks to go ahead."

The Prime Minister said he was anxious that Sinn Fein should become a democratic party, but he added: "The demonstration was not the action of people who support democracy."

Mr Major had nearly been forced to abandon his planned visit after the violence erupted outside the museum near the Republican Bogside area of Londonderry. Bottles of CS gas were hurled at police as scuffles broke out and the museum entrance was blocked by protesters, many of them prominent Sinn Fein members, including the former IRA hunger striker Raymond McCartney.

Three sets of RUC reinforcements were called in as for half an hour police locked arms to try to move the demonstrators aside to clear a path to the entrance. The most vocal protesters were pushed down the street and Mary Nellis, an elderly Sinn Fein councillor, fell over.

As the protesters were moved away, bottles and road cones were thrown at the police. One young constable had to flee after being cornered by a mob and a gas cylinder smashed the rear window of an armour-plated police car that tried to disperse the crowd.

Amid fears that the police could not guarantee Mr Major's safety, the Prime Minister's staff prepared to fly back to London, but he told them: "No. I am determined to go back." Museum staff who had locked up and gone home then returned to reopen the building to show the Prime Minister a special Battle of the Atlantic exhibition.

Mr Major said afterwards: "I don't believe that a demonstration should stop the British Prime Minister honouring a visit he promised to make to look at what was done in this City during the war to make sure that people have the freedom to live in the way we do."

John Kerr, the Nationalist SDLP Deputy Mayor of Londonderry, condemned the Sinn Fein demonstration saying: "It was a very disappointing result. Sinn Fein tried to prevent the Prime Minister from meeting a large section of the population, including their own leader in the City. The party could have made its protest inside the museum or by having a private word in the Prime Minister's ear."

However, Sinn Fein accused the RUC of inflaming a peaceful protest. Mitchel McLaughlin, the party's chairman who was due to meet the Prime Minister in his role as a city councillor said: "It was a tragedy that a perfectly peaceful protest ended up in disorder. I am obviously holding the RUC accountable because they had no crowd control planned. As they attempted to move the picketeers away from the entrance of the museum building, the crisis became inevitable."

Mr McLaughlin added that the RUC should have been aware that Republicans, wanted to register their dissatisfaction with the Government's handling of the peace process.

Mines admission

A minister admitted yesterday that anti-personnel mines have been manufactured in Britain as recently as 1986 and deployed in Ulster in spite of Government assertions that none has been produced for more than a decade.... Page 2

CRISPIN RODWELL/Reuter



Police remove demonstrators outside the Tower Museum in Londonderry. The protest delayed John Major's visit

Labour's Northern Ireland spokeswoman Majorie Mowlam condemned the clashes saying: "Violence of this sort is unacceptable on the streets of Derry or anywhere else in the UK and it must be condemned by all parties in Northern Ireland. We in the Labour Party find the behaviour of the protesters unacceptable. We support the Government in its attempts to move the peace process forward."

The riot came at the end of a series of engagements the Prime Minister held with business and church leaders in Northern Ireland. One of his first meetings was with Families Against Intimidation and Terror, a human rights group which campaigns against punishment beatings. After the meeting Mr Major condemned the paramilitary beatings as "wholly and utterly unacceptable."

☐ Danny Morrison, the 42-year-old former Sinn Fein propaganda chief who coined the phrase "with a ballot box in one hand and an Armalite in this hand we will take power in Ireland", is to be freed on parole from the Maze Prison later this month after serving half of an eight-year sentence for falsely imprisoning an alleged IRA informer.

Pollution alert as heatwave outshines the Med

BY NICK NUTTALL
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

POLLUTION warnings were issued in England and Wales last night after temperatures in Britain soared above those of Barcelona, Beirut and Athens.

The Department of the Environment warned that foul air caused by traffic fumes, still air and bright sunlight, would effect most parts of the country today, and Friends of the Earth said a "secret smog" had been hanging over most of Britain all week and accused the Government of trying to keep it quiet.

The group said large tracts of the country had been suffering from foul air that exceeded World Health Organisation guidelines. It has complained to the European Commission which, it emerged yesterday, has written formally to the Government.

Asthmatics and people with breathing difficulties are being advised to refrain from strenuous exercise and medical experts warned sunbathers, especially those with fair skin, to be sensible because of the risk of skin cancer.

Health Department figures show that deaths from melanoma are rising faster than any other form of cancer. Gordon McVie, scientific director at the Cancer Research Campaign, said: "If there is any doubt at all about what precautions to take, people should use a sun block of factor 15 or higher, seek shade, and wear suitable clothing."

Forecasters predict that the sunny weather will continue until Saturday, and say temperatures in London and parts of the South East could exceed 80F today, more than 20F higher than the seasonal norm. The weather is the result of high pressure over western Europe.

Forecast, page 24

VE-DAY

In a books special, Alistair Horne, surveying a score of VE-Day titles, is struck by the courage of civilians; Norman Stone offers his corrective to a revisionist account of Hitler's last days; and Julia Neuberger on the wickedest lie of all: Holocaust denial.....38, 39
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Coma mother has baby girl

A baby girl has been born alive ten weeks after her mother was critically injured in a road crash and lapsed into an irreversible coma.....Page 3

Forces cuts over

Further cuts in the Armed Forces have been ruled out, according to the Government's Defence White Paper.....Page 7

Tory loyalists unite to avert early leadership election

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

SENIOR Conservatives are trying to head off an early leadership challenge to John Major by threatening to name MPs who formally call for a contest before the autumn.

With the Tories facing a rout in the local elections today, loyalist backbenchers suspect that rebel MPs may try to destabilise the Prime Minister with speculation about advancing a leadership election, which would normally be held in November.

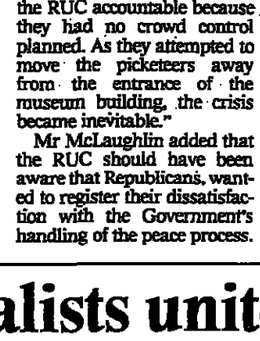
Some senior ministers believe that Mr Major should go along with a contest and demand party loyalty. But he is unlikely to do that and prominent figures on the 1922 Committee executive, which would stage any election, strongly oppose the idea.

Sir Marcus Fox, the chairman, is understood to have agreed with senior colleagues that there should be no question of advancing the contest. Even so, some members of the 1922 executive believe that discontent could be so strong after tonight's results that Mr Major's opponents will still demand a contest. Loyalist executive members say that Sir Marcus will write to any such MPs flatly ruling out a contest; they also say that he should threaten to make their names public. Others believe the names would be deliberately leaked one way or another. "If they won't play by the rules we won't play by the rules," a senior Tory said.

Michael Heseltine is understood to have warned supporters to have nothing to do with any leadership plotting. Mr Major, meanwhile, is expected to make plain tomorrow that he will see off anyone who cares to challenge him — at the proper time.

While the VE-Day celebra-

Continued on page 2, col 4



Fox has ruled out early leadership poll

Election reports and Peter Riddell, page 10
Graham Mather, page 20
Leading article, page 21

Serbs bomb Zagreb lunch-time crowds

FROM ANTHONY LOYD IN ZAGREB

ROCKETS carrying cluster bombs fell on lunch-time crowds in Zagreb yesterday, killing one person and injuring 64, including a Kent-born dancer.

Mark Boldin, 27, had returned only recently to the city but last night he lay in a hospital bed faced with the prospect that his dancing career might be over after bomb fragments tore into his stomach. The attack was the second of its kind in two days.

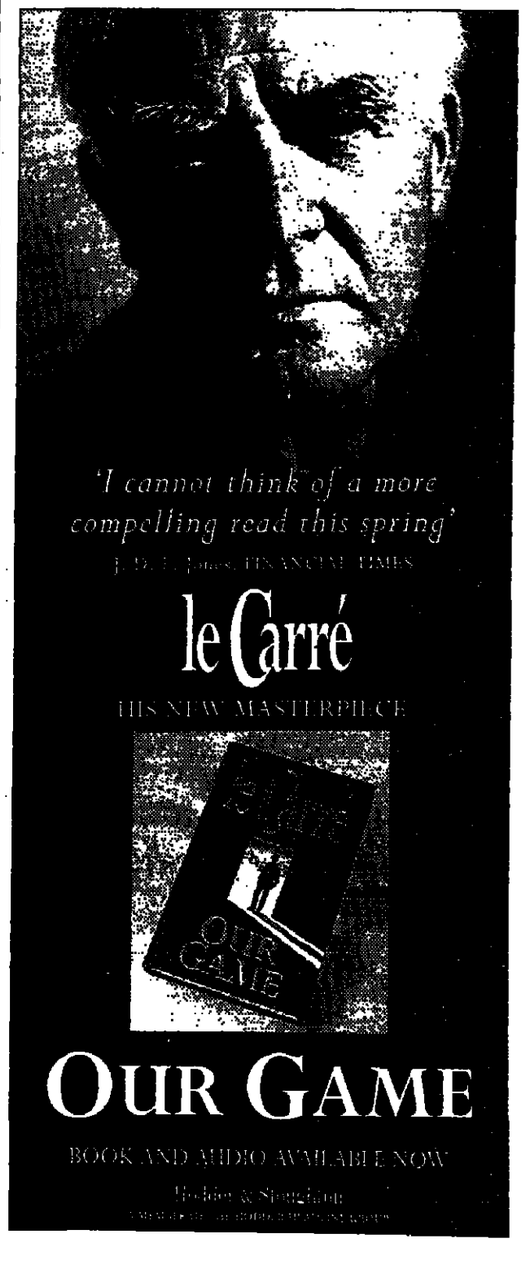
Mr Boldin, who dances with the Croatian National Ballet, was rehearsing in the national theatre complex in the centre of Zagreb when a Serb Orkan rocket shed its lethal cargo of bomblets in the street outside. Shrapnel blew through the windows and walls, hitting Mr Boldin in the legs, groin and abdomen, wounds Tomislav Sosa, the head surgeon at the Merkur Hospital, later described as "life threatening". Many of Mr Boldin's colleagues, among them about 20 Ukrainian, Russian, and Romanian nationals, were also wounded.

From his hospital bed the Briton, who remained conscious, appeared optimistic about his chances of recovery. "I was happy to come back," he said. "It's a lively place. But I would want the people who produce weapons and who sell weapons put behind bars," he added, shortly before going into the operating theatre for surgery that would determine whether he would dance again.

Behind heavy anti-blast doors in the basement shelter of the children's hospital

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Jaguar enthusiasts pay £100,000 for nothing

BY ROBIN YOUNG

TWENTY-FIVE wealthy car enthusiasts who changed their minds after putting their names down to buy a 217 mph Jaguar at a cost of £415,000 have agreed to pay £100,000 each to avoid taking delivery of the car.

The would-be purchasers of the Jaguar XJ220 were among hundreds, including aristocrats, millionaires and racing enthusiasts, who were unwilling or unable to pay after they signed up for the car in the late 1980s before the recession sent luxury car values plummeting.

The group of 25, who are now clear of any threat of legal action, are also believed to have forfeited their £50,000 deposits. The company has a series of cases pending against customers who had refused to take delivery of the cars or to meet their instalment payments. The company is believed to have stood to lose more than £20 million in the dispute. A Jaguar spokesman said yesterday: "We have always felt there was no point pursuing people who were unwilling to pay."

The discontented customers claimed that the XJ220 had been devalued by Jaguar's launch of the XJR15, which had four-wheel drive, and a bigger engine. They also said that the company altered the vehicle's dimensions. Jean-Louis Ricci, whose grandmother founded the Nina Ricci perfume company, said that it was like ordering a Ferrari, and finding that you had been offered a Citroën 2CV.

By last year the resale value of the XJ220, of which 300 had been produced and 200 delivered, had fallen to £180,000. Some 90 customers have still to settle their dispute with Jaguar, which claims that they are disappointed speculators who had hoped to make a profit.

Buying The Times overseas
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Hurd's long vowels caught in a time-warp



Kennedy: "ein Berliner"

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

WHEN John Kennedy, meaning to express his solidarity with the besieged people of Berlin by declaring "I am a Berliner", declared "*Ich bin ein Berliner*", he is said to have blundered. There is a doughnut that Germans nickname the "Berliner". Kennedy's phrasing implied that the US President was claiming to be one of these.

If the Foreign Secretary was to be believed yesterday afternoon, Prince Charles has now gone further. "I was with the Prince of Wales in Germany this morning," Mr Hurd told surprised MPs, "in the big square of Hamburg, where he made an eloquent speech in German, on the theme of future co-operation, to a large crowd of Hamburgers."

Having tired of conversation with plants, perhaps HRH has decided to broaden his social circle. Poor Mr Hurd. Hearing the laughter he realised his error and joined in.

But it tells you something about this classy but dated Foreign Secretary that the word "Hamburger" could have occurred to him in any context but that of fast food. Among MPs, Mr Hurd is one of the diminishing band who, it remains possible to believe, have never entered the doors of McDonald's or Burger King.

The Serbian leadership, he told MPs in a statement about the Balkans, would "cut orf their people from the future of Europe". Your sketchwriter is less confident than Mr Hurd that he knows Europe's future, but confident at least that, sadly, it will contain nobody who says "orf" any more.

There is a paradox about Europeanist performances from both sides of the Chamber these days. The talk is all of the modernity, of the future, and of vision for the next generation. But the accents, the abstract nouns, and the class-associations are faintly grand and strangely dated. It all seems a bit *Pathé* Newsreel, a bit 1960s. It looks toward a future which we then believed was round the corner: a future of world government, unisex tinfoil clothing, the United Nations, vitamin pills, electric cars and Esperanto.

The warring factions in the Balkans, the Foreign Secretary told us, were "living in a time-warp" — the time-warp of outdated and belligerent small-state nationalisms. They seemed blind to the future, said Hurd, a future of "reconciliation, reconstruction and the making of a new Europe".

This was compelling. But I couldn't quite dispel the thought that it might be Mr Hurd and friends, busy in the attempt at making a new Europe, who were in the time-warp.

The House of Commons is turning against the British-backed United Nations effort in the Balkans. Mr Hurd's statement yesterday was masterful, as ever. Who else can tiptoe so loftily? Germany's catastrophic decision to force EU recognition for Balkan republics was characterised thus: "Historians will argue about the timing." Nicholas Budgen guffawed.

And the Foreign Secretary must have noticed that his pleas for patience and plaudits for the UN forces' role were getting scant echo from his own side. The usual suspects grumbled, but more interesting was to hear the thoughful David Howell declare "there is no peace to keep", or note the cautious David Sumberg and the trusty Sir Anthony Grant voice doubts.

Bitterly, Hurd characterised the isolationists as the "let-them-fight-it-out" brigade, and out of touch. But, if they are in a time-warp, then it's growing. As Riff-Raff, Magenta, Frankenfurter and finally the whole company sing in *The Rocky Horror Show*: "Let's do the time-warp, again."

Hamburg visit, page 9

Britain 'deployed personnel mines in Ireland'

BY JAMES LANDALE
POLITICAL REPORTER

ANTI-personnel mines have been made in Britain as recently as 1986, possibly for use in Northern Ireland, despite Government assertions that none had been produced here for more than a decade, it was disclosed yesterday.

A small number had been manufactured by Royal Ordnance factories, Roger Freeman, the Defence Procurement Minister, said in a written Commons answer. The Mines Advisory Group, a charity that clears mines around the world, said the mines were made in Britain after America refused to supply a similar model when it was discovered they were to be used in Northern Ireland to defend isolated Army border posts and other military installations.

The Ministry of Defence stopped buying British landmines in 1983 and last year the Government imposed a partial export ban after growing international opposition. Last night the Ministry of Defence refused to comment on whether the mines had been deployed in Northern Ireland but emphasised that none was deployed now.

Mr Freeman said that the Projector Area Defence Weapons made in 1986 were not previously classified as anti-personnel land-mines. "However, further research has now established that these weapons fall within the standard Nato definition of a landmine," he said in the written reply to David Alton, Liberal Democrat MP for Mossley Hill.

"Consequently, previous statements that the UK had not produced anti-personnel mines for over a decade are not accurate in relation to the PJRAD."

The more correctly titled Projected Area Defence mines are held on stilts above the ground so that the force of the blast moves horizontally, spreading the damage over a wider area. Like the American M18A1 mine on which they are modelled, the PAD mine propels hundreds of ball bearings through a 50 degree angle for more than 50 yards at a height of up to 6ft. However, the MoD said they were not "victim operated" and could only be set off electrically by remote control.

"They are extremely dangerous and random weapons that have a wide impact when they go off," Rae McGrath, director of the Mines Advisory Group, said. "To even think of using these things in Great Britain in support of police action against terrorists is astonishing. It is murderous."

NEWS IN BRIEF

MP calls for more details of war spies

An MP called yesterday for the release of more secret documents on suspected British spies. Barry Field, Tory MP for the Isle of Wight, where Dorothy O'Grady, a landlady, was said to have worked as a Nazi agent in 1940, has written to John Major urging the release of information on wartime spies. Among the files on O'Grady's secret trial for treachery in 1940, held by the Crown Prosecution Service, there is a letter to her solicitor: "Under no circumstances will I ever divulge the names of any person or people I have been working with in the interest of Germany."

Arrests at port

Fourteen animal rights protesters were arrested outside Dover harbour yesterday after vainly trying to stop exporters stepping up shipments of farm animals to the Continent. More than 200 demonstrators, their numbers swelled by colleagues from Shoreham, West Sussex, shouted abuse as 26 livestock lorries in three convoys arrived at the port.

Police swoop

More than 500 people have been charged after police raided nearly 2,000 houses across southern England and Wales looking for stolen property. Among items recovered were oil paintings, jewellery, firearms, ammunition, drugs, passports, credit cards, a large quantity of BBC costumes — and a complete kitchen, including appliances and units.

Scots law chief

Downing Street announced yesterday that Donald Mackay, QC, 49, is to be the new Solicitor-General for Scotland in succession to Thomas Dawson, QC. The appointment, approved by the Queen, follows Mr Dawson's appointment as a Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland. Mr Dawson had been Solicitor-General for Scotland since 1992.

Protest violence

Twenty protesters against the M65 extension were arrested yesterday during violent scenes at a tree-top village at Stanworth Woods near Blackburn, Lancashire. A 6ft metal post was flung from 60ft up a tree, sticking in the ground just a foot from a policeman as eight treehouses were cleared of occupants. There are about eight treehouses left.

Leopard attack

A 25-year-old man was clawed by a leopard at a zoo yesterday after he climbed over a safety fence to try to stroke the animal. Carl Hogben, from Richmond, London, drank three pints of beer before scaling the outer of two enclosure fences at Marwell Zoo, near Winchester, Hampshire. He was treated for gashes to his arms and chest.

File reopened

Falkland Islands police have reopened the file on a Royal Marine who disappeared in 1980. A police spokesman said foul play was suspected in the case of Alan Addis, 19, of Wrawby, Humberside, who disappeared after a night out. Two years ago his mother, Ann, who refused to accept that her son had fallen into the sea, won her fight to have the case reopened.

Island for sale

The island of Scarp in the Outer Hebrides is being sold by receivers of the property company Orbitglen, formerly managed by the disgraced businessman Nazmudin Virani. The island, uninhabited since 1971, is expected to attract offers of over £75,000. Virani was jailed for his dealings in the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International.

Tories prepare to drop commitment to child benefit

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PETER LILLEY signalled yesterday that the Tories may drop their commitment to a universal child benefit in their next election manifesto. The Social Security Secretary indicated that reform of the subsidy, which is paid to all mothers, was being considered as part of his department's long-term review of social security.

He said the Government was committed to paying the benefit for every child until the next general election but hinted that the formula, which has restricted any revision of the allowance, which costs the state £6 billion, may not be contained in the next manifesto. "We have clearly a manifesto commitment to maintaining the present system of child benefit," Mr Lilley said. He emphasised that help would undoubtedly still be given towards the cost of child rearing. "I cannot envisage a system where we did not have a benefit or tax system or both which recognised the costs of bringing up children."

He referred to the fact that child benefit emerged from a system of child tax allowances, benefiting the father, which were scrapped in the 1970s. Since then ministers have repeatedly tussled over whether the benefit should still go to all mothers, irrespective of income, as now, or whether it should be taxed, means tested, or given to the under fives only. At present £10.20 a week is given to the first child, and £8.25 for subsequent children. Social security sources insisted that no options were under active discussion yet and a decision may be delayed until after the election.

Mr Lilley is aware that Labour intends to come up with its own proposals for child benefit, following work done by the Social Justice Commission. A working party set up by Tony Blair is now examining a proposal to tax child benefit for high earners. The Social Justice Commission claimed that £300 million could be saved from such a plan, which could fund a 60p increase in the universal benefit. Labour would still be able to argue that it was paying the benefit to all, while ensuring it was targetted more effectively.

Mr Lilley, speaking at a Press Gallery lunch, angered disabled groups by suggesting that fraudsters might take to wheelchairs to claim disablity benefit under tighter rules that come into effect next month. Anticipating protest about the new incapacity benefit test, he forecast an "orchestrated, somewhat synthetic campaign against it which will be organised around the country". He joked to journalists: "We will see, on our television screens, people who have been refused the benefit and, for the first time in their lives, are to be seen in a wheelchair."



Lilley: wheelchair joke

Those actually wheelchair-bound, he added, would not have to take the test.

Labour immediately rounded on Mr Lilley, saying it was "deplorable" that he should suggest that those opposing the incapacity benefit rule changes would be prepared to take to wheelchairs on a basis of fraud. Donald Dewar, Labour's spokesman, said Mr Lilley should worry about the damage he was doing by introducing the new rules, rather than "sneer at those who face an uncertain future".

Brian Lamb, head of campaigns for Scope, formerly the Spastics Society, said the jibe could incite more discrimination. "This is an absolutely outrageous statement that will only encourage future unfounded prejudice against disabled people, at a time when Mr Lilley's department is sponsoring a Bill which would eradicate discrimination against disabled people."

BBC TV



Mark Boldin in a Zagreb hospital after being wounded by shrapnel yesterday

Serbs bomb crowds in Zagreb

Continued from page 1

in Zagreb, about 400 youngsters, some of whom were just a few days old, huddled in a bare concrete room in rows of three-tiered steel bunks racked close together.

In two cramped cots, a dozen tiny infants in swaddling lay head to head, like dolls arranged on a blanket. Older children lay curled up asleep and bored little boys sat in rows swinging their legs as orderlies, nurses and doctors calmly dispensed food and medicine from a makeshift kitchen-dispensary erected on a bare metal bunkbed. "It's a cell, but we are prepared," Ivan Fattorini, the hosital director, said. "We can stay closed there and provide shelter, food and water for 400 for 12 days if we have to."

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Major challenge

Continued from page 1

tions over the weekend may provide some respite for the Government, troubles are piling up. There is strong City speculation that the Chancellor and Bank of England Governor will agree another interest rate rise tomorrow. Next Wednesday, the Government faces a backbench revolt over London hospital closures, and the by-election at Perth and Kinross at the end of May will almost certainly further reduce its Commons majority.

The Conservatives' unhappy run-up to today's elections continued yesterday when they were again thrown on to the defensive over the U-turn on taxing payouts from mortgage protection insurance.

Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor pointed to "the chaotic shambles at the heart of the Government", saying: "Tax decisions are now made in panic without proper discussion and made not in the public interest, but driven by the electoral desperation of the Tory party."

But Kenneth Clarke said the decision not to levy the tax came after ministers had considered routine recommendations from Inland Revenue officials. He said that officials referred the most important rulings on tax liability to their minister, Sir George Young, who would occasionally pass them to the Chancellor.

"He referred this one, and it took us five or ten minutes to sort out a tax that had never been charged, a tax that no minister had ever proposed and a tax that was never collected," Mr Clarke said.

With the Tories facing the loss of up to 1,500 seats today, Labour and Liberal Democrats were yesterday furiously trying to contain expectations and Paddy Ashdown predicted that many people would say "a plague on all your houses" and boycott the poll.

Almost 29,000 candidates are competing for about 12,000 seats in England and Wales. Some 9,158 of the candidates are Labour, 7,855 Conservatives and 7,248 Liberal Democrats. There are also more than 3,000 candidates who come under the heading of Independents or "others".

Election reports and Peter Riddell, page 10
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Most schools 'are cutting budgets'

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

TWO-THIRDS of state schools are having to cut their budgets in real terms, head teachers said yesterday as a classroom union spoke of thousands of jobs at risk.

The National Association of Head Teachers (NAHT), claimed that schools had been "robbed" of almost £300 million because they had not been compensated for inflation, rising pupil numbers and the teachers' pay increase. A wave of redundancies is expected later this month, when the deadline expires for notices to staff losing their jobs.

Governors have already decided to axe 2,500 teaching posts, according to the Association of Teachers and Lecturers. The union, which is one of three considering action over the impact of the cuts, fears that many more jobs will be lost in the coming weeks.

Out of 67 English local education authorities surveyed by the NAHT, 45 are implementing real-terms cuts in school budgets. Worst hit are the counties with schools £258 million short of the amount they need to maintain current spending levels.

The survey bears out ministerial arguments that the financial picture is patchy. More than a quarter of authorities have increased their spending on schools in real terms.

But David Hart, NAHT's general secretary, said the results confirmed "dire" prospects overall. "This year's settlement has been described as 'tough but manageable'. But the survey proves this is simply not the case."

☐ Cooper School in Bicester, Oxfordshire, is threatening to introduce a four-day-week next term because of budget cuts. The state secondary school is seeking further legal advice over a plan to put 380 first and second-year pupils on a shorter week. Governors insisted yesterday that the step was the only solution to a funding squeeze that made class sizes unmanageable.

Crown to keep PM's papers

FUTURE Prime Ministers will be prevented from removing all but the most personal papers from Downing Street, the Cabinet Office confirmed yesterday (Nigel Williamson writes).

Downing Street said the rules had been revised by John Major in 1991. "It was not the result of one specific incident: it was just right for him to take a fresh look when he became Prime Minister," a spokeswoman said. The announcement came as the row continued over the sale of the papers kept by Sir Winston Churchill on leaving office. However, it is believed that Downing Street was involved in the negotiations that led to a reduction in the price eventually paid for the Churchill papers by arguing that many of the items were not personal papers but official documents. Mr Major has assured MPs that no money was handed over for state papers that formed part of the collection.

A Cabinet Office spokeswoman said: "With the agreement of the present Prime Minister, only papers which are truly personal will in future be removed from official custody so that what is removed contains no official material other than that which, like copies of letters to members of the public, is already in the public domain."

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'Karen would be so proud'

Woman in coma gives birth to 3lb 2oz daughter

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

A BABY girl was born alive yesterday ten weeks after her mother was critically injured in a road crash and lapsed into an irreversible coma.

The 3lb 2oz child, who is 12 weeks premature, was delivered in a Swansea hospital to Karen Battenbough, who has severe brain damage and is not expected to recover, although her condition remains stable.

The baby needed a blood transfusion and was critically ill on a ventilator, although her condition slightly improved during the day. She was born by an emergency Caesarean section following a sudden deterioration in the condition of her mother.

Doctors had been hoping to leave the baby in the womb for at least another four weeks to improve her chances of survival. The blond-haired girl has been called Karen Bethan.

Her father Mike waited with a midwife outside the operating room and caught his first glimpse of the baby as she was rushed for the transfusion to the special care baby unit. He was allowed to join his wife when the operation was completed and whispered to her: "She is beautiful, just beautiful."

Mr Battenbough, 30, a nursing home care assistant from Swansea, said afterwards: "I was stroking her hand as I explained how beautiful she is. I know Karen would be so proud. I know it would take a miracle for her to be ever able to see or hold the baby herself but that's what we are all praying for.

"I haven't been able to cuddle the baby because she is too weak and fragile, but I have touched her little hand through a hole in the incubator. She is really beautiful with blond hair just like Karen. I am sure she will be the image of her mother when she grows up."

He said it was the miracle he had hoped for. "I realise that the baby is all I will have left to remind me of my wife and I am grateful beyond belief that the doctors and nurses have made it possible," he said. Observers said Mr Battenbough's mood has swung from elation that the baby was alive to deflation at her illness to a determination that she will survive.

Mrs Battenbough was a passenger in a Ford Sierra driven by her husband which crashed into a stationary bus on a slip road off the M4 on February 26. She suffered severe brain, head and spine injuries and was taken to the city's Morrison Hospital. Only the back of her brain is working, allowing her to breathe unaided as her body functions on a basic level. The unborn baby escaped harm in the crash.

Doctors had hoped to wait until the unborn child was at least 32 weeks old before bringing her into the world. But the condition of Mrs Battenbough suddenly deteriorated this week. Her blood pressure was fluctuating and she was taken eight miles to the Singleton Hospital in Swansea on Tuesday in case she needed an immediate caesarean.

Mrs Battenbough appeared to rally and the specialist medical team hoped to postpone delivery. A dozen midwives were chosen from a host of volunteers to look after mother, father and baby round the clock.

The hospital gently explained to Mr Battenbough that he should not expect a bouncing baby but a tiny, probably sick, child. John Calvett, 46, one of Britain's leading experts in obstetrics and clinical director of obstetrics and gynaecology at the hospital, informed Mr Battenbough at 6am yesterday morning that he would operate at 10am.

He brought delivery forward by two hours as the baby's heartbeat became abnormal and rapid. The two-minute routine caesarean section was performed by a team of six specialists. They decided to anaesthetise Mrs Battenbough even though it was unclear whether she would feel pain. After the 8.15am delivery, her condition appeared to stabilise and she is expected to be transferred back to the head injuries unit, although her prognosis is poor.

The baby has a number of problems but her weight was good for a child born so prematurely. Her care is now in the hands of Dr Jean Matthes, a consultant paediatrician. If the baby survives her first 48 hours, she has a long-term chance of life but can expect to remain in hospital for several weeks.



Karen Battenbough with her husband Mike

BARRY BATCHELOR



Brian Aldiss shoulders a spade as West Buckland sixth-formers prepare for a spot of archaeology; below, lifting the lid on a tin full of secrets



Author returns to dig up the dirt he buried 50 years ago

BRIAN ALDISS, the novelist and science fiction writer, succeeded yesterday in unearthing the saucy stories he buried more than half a century ago as a schoolboy to escape expulsion or a caning (Robin Young writes).

Mr Aldiss, whose 69 published books include *A Hand Reared Boy* and *A Soldier Erect*, returned to his old school, West Buckland in Devon, to hunt for a biscuit tin full of early writings largely concerned with sex and crime, which he buried in the wood beside the school swimming pool before leaving to join the Army in 1943. Mr Aldiss, 69, whose seventieth book, a collection of poems, will be published soon, on his seventieth birthday, was accompanied on his hunt by sixth-form students and Michael Downward, the school's headmaster.

After a four-hour search they found the tin, still containing a Latin exercise book wrapped in a waterproof cover and retitled *The Jest So Stories*. Inside the cover the 16-year-old author had written, "8 million copies already sold or thrown away". "That really sets the tone of the work if you like."

said Mr Aldiss, who declined to disclose any rediscovered texts in case they should prove good enough to be the basis of a new novel.

Mr Aldiss said he wrote a number of books while at school. "They were eagerly received and avidly read by everyone in my form. Most schoolboys are obsessed with sex and some of the tales were full of erotic activities, though tame by today's standards. We had a problem with what to do with them at the end of each term. If found they would have meant a caning or expulsion."

Dying Aids victim revealed secret of brother's murder

A WOMAN who killed her son and buried him in the back garden to save him a horrible death from drug addiction kept the secret in the family for 23 years, an inquest was told yesterday.

Joy Mayes battered her son Roderick, 23, and cut his throat before burying the body with the help of her older son, Sean, and her father at their home in Weston-super-Mare, Avon. It lay undiscovered until February this year when Sean, who is dying from Aids, confessed to police.

The inquest was told that Roderick's girlfriend, a nurse, told Mrs Mayes that her son was addicted to drugs and would die unless he stopped taking them. Mrs Mayes drugged her son's cocoa, fractured his skull with a metal footscraper as he lay asleep and cut his throat with a kitchen knife. The body was kept under her bed for several days before being lowered from a window to the garden for burial at night. Dental records confirmed that the body was that of Roderick, who died on April 8, 1972.

The inquest heard that the recovered body was remarkably well preserved as it had been wrapped in plastic sheeting. Dr Hugh White, a Home Office pathologist, said death was caused by head injuries. Detective Sergeant Mike Robinson told the inquest that Sean, a rock musician, was a patient at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, west London, and was dying from Aids. "He disclosed through counselling that his mother had killed his brother and that he and his grandfather had assisted in the burial," Sergeant Robinson said. Sean's grandfather, Commander Thomas Thompson, OBE, died in April 1975, and Mrs Mayes died in September 1991. Coroner Paul Forrest said he was satisfied that Roderick had been unlawfully killed. Sergeant Robinson said Sean was not expected to live beyond the end of the year and no charges would be brought against him.

SATURDAY IN THE TIMES



Volk hero

THE BRITON WHO MADE THE VOLKSWAGEN GREAT

IN

CAR 95

BANK HOLIDAY JUMBO CROSSWORD AND HOLIDAY EVENTS GUIDE

IN

WEEKEND

Judge says open-air opera is not a nuisance

BY TIM JONES

THE strains of Strauss, Haydn and Rossini carried on a summer evening breeze did not amount to noise pollution, a judge decided yesterday.

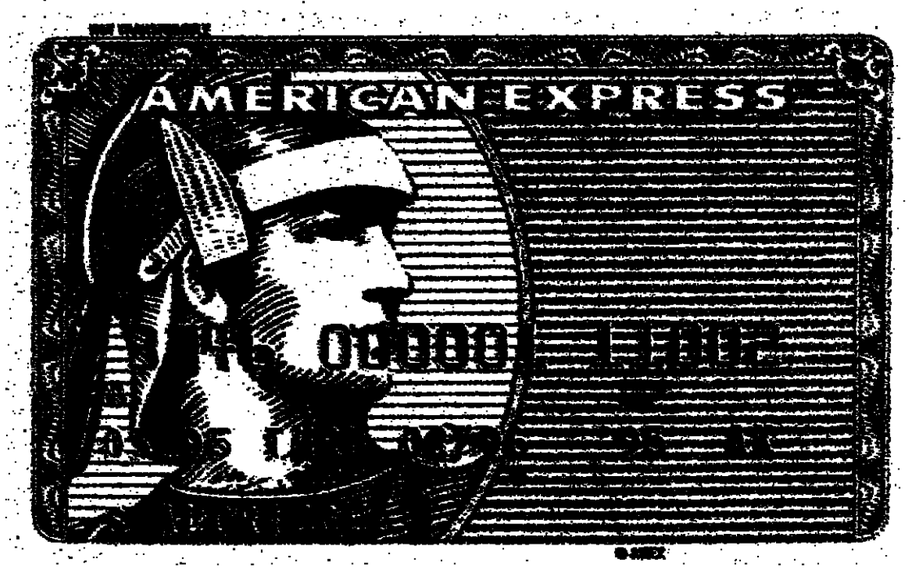
He overturned the conviction of Leonard Ingrams, who was fined £1,000 in December after neighbours complained that the open-air operas staged at his manor house in Garsington, Oxfordshire, had made their lives a misery.

One resident claimed that during the season it was like being subjected to "muzak", but Judge Wilson-Mellor, QC, said: "I find it difficult to say that the noise disturbed the occupations of people in their homes. It is not possible that a person providing the opera can ask performers to be less strident in their performances."

After the case, Mr Ingrams, brother of Richard Ingrams, the former Editor of *Private Eye*, said he would spend £50,000 improving sound barriers.

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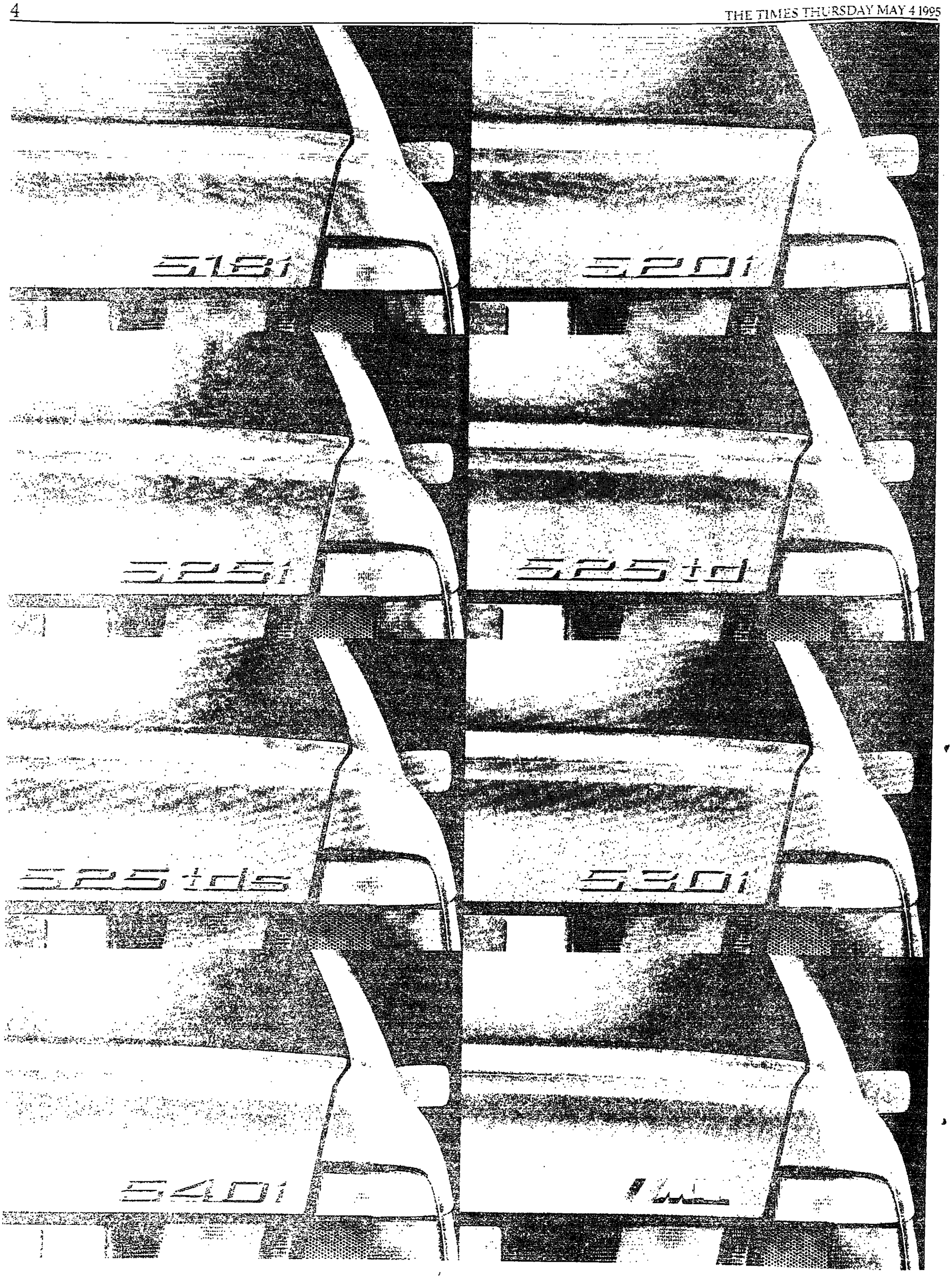
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Home Office aims to end waste of aborted trials

Proposals to take much of the preparation of cases away from magistrates, leaving them free to decide guilt or innocence, are being devised by the Home Office, Frances Gibb reports

PROPOSALS to save thousands of pounds wasted in aborted Crown Court trials by taking away key decisions from magistrates in the early stages of proceedings are being drafted by Home Office officials.

Many costly Crown Court trials are halted at the last moment when the defendant suddenly pleads guilty. Officials are preparing a consultation paper that would give the justices' clerks — the chief lawyers and managers in Magistrates' Courts — far wider powers than they have at the moment, including the decision on which cases should go to trial by jury.

The new powers for the justices' clerks could also include authority to adjourn cases for further evidence to be obtained; the taking of a defendant's plea and varying bail conditions. The proposals, which have been put forward by the justices' clerks themselves, would free magistrates to deal with the central issues of guilt or innocence.

Government backing for the measures, which were proposed by the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice, was signalled by Sir Nicholas Lyell, QC, the Attorney-General, when he addressed the justices' clerks at their annual conference in Harrogate, North Yorkshire, yesterday.

He said: "Without reaching a concluded view, or trespassing on the responsibilities of other departments and other ministers, I see merit in your examining these issues as part of the way ahead."

The proposals build on a system already in place for family and child abuse cases, where justices' clerks act as the first port of call and then allocate cases to the appropriate level of court.

Peter Dawson, president of the 250-member Justices' Clerks' Society, said that the proposals would "discourage delay, inertia and avoidable cost to the public purse".

A working party including magistrates had been set up to look in to the whole issue and "substantial agreement has been reached", Mr Dawson said.

Sir Nicholas went on to give warning that the abolition of committal proceedings later this month may cause fresh delays in the already over-burdened criminal justice system. He told the conference that the change would mean that most criminal cases reached the Crown Court with no hearing in the Magistrates' Court.

Instead they would be dealt with by justices' clerks on the papers submitted. But he said that although few people would "mourn the demise of the old-style committal" in which witnesses were called and all the evidence rehearsed, the new paper-only committals would bring their own burdens. "The role of the clerk and his staff in maintaining the momentum of cases will be crucial," Sir Nicholas said.

"It is all too easy for cases, particularly those involving several defendants or where there are other related proceedings, to move at a pace dictated by the slowest of the parties, whether it be prosecutor or a defendant."

Sir Nicholas urged courts, police and the Crown Prosecution Service to liaise if cases were not to be dropped unnecessarily and miscarriages of justice not to occur. "The idea that one part of the system should throw its weight about to teach another part a lesson is an approach that should be exercised with great discretion. It leads to cases that should have reached trial being discontinued. That is in its own individual way a miscarriage of justice."

☐ The Government was criticised yesterday for failing to protect magistrates against having to pay costs when their rulings are overturned on appeal. Peter Dawson, president of the Justices' Clerks' Society, said it was odd that apart from coroners, the only "judicial tribunals" that have to pay the costs of wrong decisions were unpaid lay magistrates. Several magistrates' benches have had rulings overturned in recent months, particularly on poll tax cases.

Mr Dawson said the Lord Chancellor's Department had produced a response that the society was now considering. But he said: "The response does not meet adequately the society's concerns."

Mr Dawson also criticised the Government for failing to provide magistrates' courts with details of new traffic legislation in time for them to apply it.

Barristers' six-figure claims 'indefensible'

Solicitors demand curbs on legal-aid fees for QCs

BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT



Law Society: wants to cut legal-aid waste

THE large fees paid to top barristers from legal-aid funds must end, the Law Society said yesterday. The society, professional body for 70,000 solicitors in England and Wales, called for tough controls on "indefensible" six-figure fees earned by Queen's Counsel doing legal-aid work and also for an end to the practice of legal-aid funds paying for two barristers to appear for one side in a hearing.

"Some QCs seem to be receiving excessive levels of income from legal aid," the Law Society said. "For example, a QC recently received over £600,000 for about two years' work on a case.

"Without regulations prescribing the level of fees, or any clear explanation of how a particular level of fee is justified, it is difficult for the Lord Chancellor to defend the level of QCs' fees," the society said.

Recent figures from the Lord Chancellor showed that 100 barristers received more than £100,000 (including VAT and travelling costs) from civil legal aid in 1993-94. The society's proposals are part of a package of suggested reforms aimed at curbing waste in the £1 billion legal-aid scheme, which is under review by the Lord Chancellor.

In a detailed paper sent to the Lord Chancellor, judges, consumer bodies and advice agencies, the society suggested that minor offences such as shoplifting need not go before the courts but could be handled like public transport fare cases. Legal aid could be saved if, in minor cases of dishonesty, people were given a penalty ticket that they had to pay "without an implication that they have been dishonest". On legal-aid fees, the Law Society said barristers were not subject to the controls recently imposed by the Government.

Prescribed hourly rates were set for all kinds of work and standard fees — paying lawyers a set fee by type of case rather than hours worked — had been brought in for criminal work and were coming in soon for civil and family work. But barristers' fees were not subject to the same close control.

Some prescribed fees were set for junior counsel but there was very wide discretion to exceed them, the society said. "In the Crown Court the maximum fee is exceeded in around 50 per cent of cases."

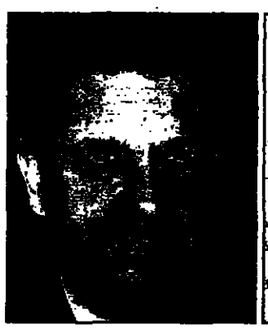
The controls on QCs' fees were even weaker, with no prescribed scales in civil or matrimonial work. Barristers were paid instead at market rates, largely what barristers' clerks chose to claim, the society said.

The society's onslaught coincides with a survey in the magazine *Legal Business* on high-earning QCs who, it estimates, could be earning more than £1 million a year from private legal fees.

The top five are George Carman, one of the best-known silks in Britain and leading criminal and libel QC; Anthony Grabiner, described as probably the most expensive silk in the world; Christopher Clarke; Sydney Kentridge and Jonathan Sumption.

It is the top legal-aid earners who could be hit under the Law Society reforms. The society proposes making solicitors responsible for negotiating the fees of counsel they instruct, instead of the barristers claiming directly. "This would benefit the legal-aid fund by providing some incentive for solicitors to control counsels' fees."

Other proposals include: savings in legal aid in personal injury cases by more use of "no win, no fee"; separate cash limits for test cases on points of principle to limit spending on multiparty actions; unclear laws to be reformed; costly fraud prosecutions to be reserved for cases of clear dishonesty and others dealt with by civil penalties.



Michael Beloff, QC: hourly rate £350 to £400; refresher rate £2,000 to £2,500; brief fee (initial fee for taking on a case): he is said to have charged £10,000 for a recent three-day application.



Anthony Boswood, QC: hourly rate £350 to £400; refresher rate £2,500; brief fee: for a recent 26-week trial Boswood charged a brief fee of £350,000 plus daily refreshers of £2,500.



George Carman, QC: hourly rate at least £500; brief fee: in 1993 he reportedly charged £25,000 for a one-week trial. A recent two-to-three week trial netted him £45,000 before refreshers.



Tony Grabiner, QC: hourly rate £650 (may have been £500 on Eurotunnel); refresher rate £3,000; brief fee: a 40-minute hearing with one day's preparation recently earned him £3,000.



Sydney Kentridge, QC: will not work to an hourly rate, so hard to assess, but could be up to £800 an hour; refresher rate £4,000; brief fee: big contempt case estimated to have brought him £100,000.



Jonathan Sumption, QC: hourly rate £500 but can be less; refresher rate £2,500 to £3,000; brief fee "not too extortionate": a recent 12-week case brought him between £150,000 and £200,000.

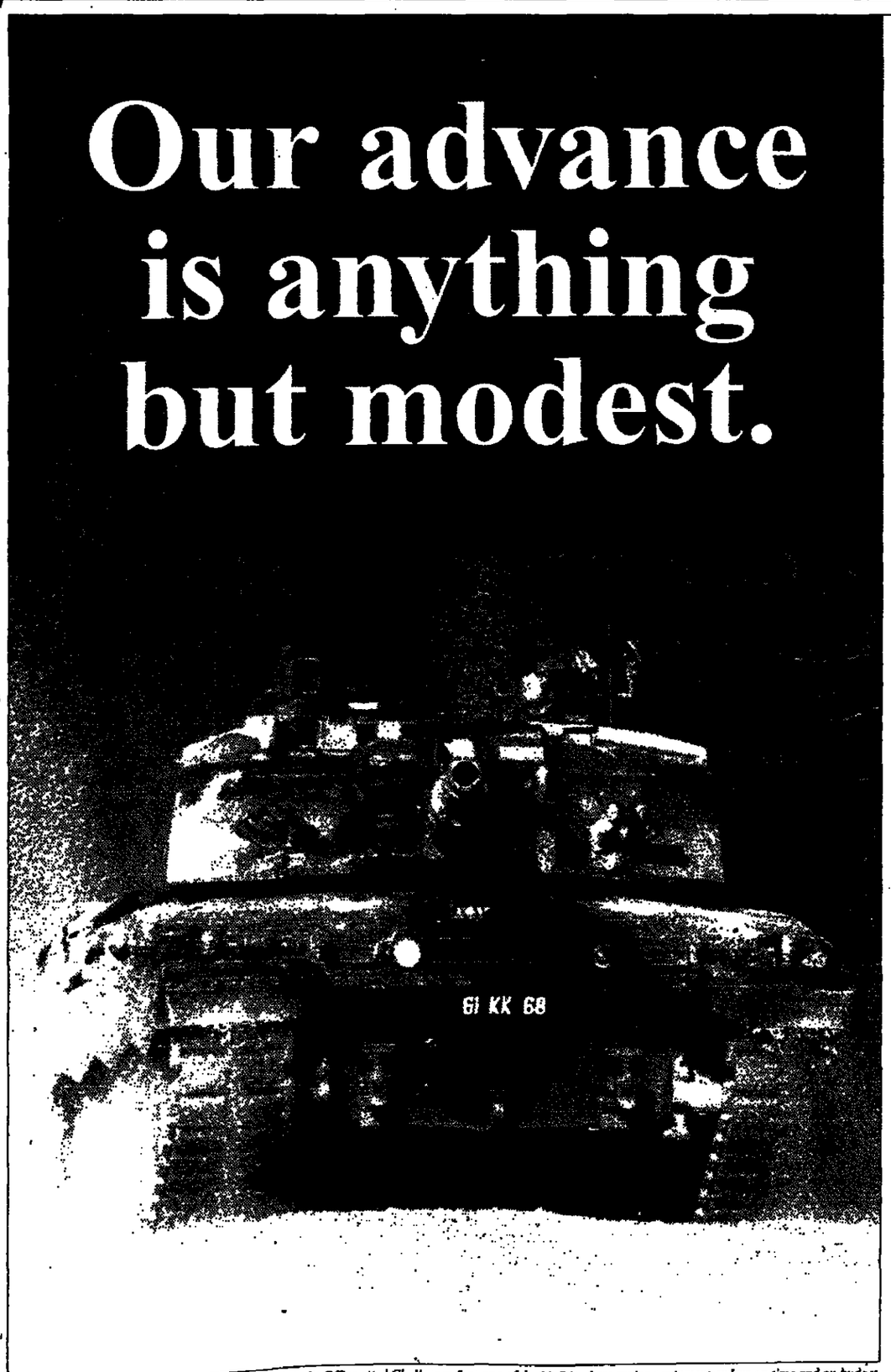


Gordon Pollock, QC: hourly rate £500; refresher rate £2,500 to £3,000; brief fee: reportedly sought £350,000 for a two-month trial but client "declined to take him up on that".



Peter Scott, QC: hourly rate £500; refresher £2,500; brief fee: for a five-hour hearing involving about 10 hours' preparation he was said to have earned £9,000. Thought to earn £1 million annually.

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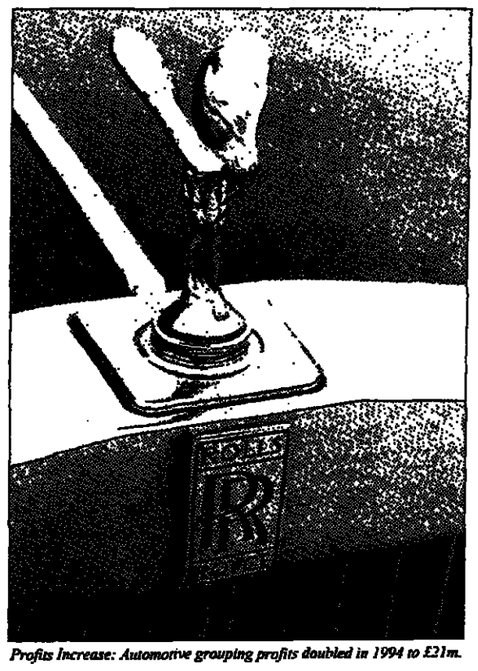
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MAY 4 1995

نقلاً عن الأصل

Rifkind predicts increasing role for British troops as world trouble spots proliferate

Government rules out further cuts in Armed Forces

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

ALL the "big decisions" to cut the Armed Forces after the end of the Cold War have now been taken and further reductions have been ruled out, according to the Government's Defence White Paper, published yesterday.

Last year, more than 11,000 Royal Navy, Army and RAF personnel were made redundant. By April 1 next year it is planned that the Armed Forces will be down to 231,500 — 48,000 in the Navy, 117,000 in the Army and 66,500 in the RAF.

These figures represent a considerable reduction in the estimates in last year's White Paper, when it was stated that by April 1 this year there would be 241,000 personnel.

The White Paper, entitled *Stable Forces in a Strong Britain*, stated: "There will be no cuts to our frontline, even if our commitments reduce."

With the promise of a period of stability for the three forces, the Government is ready to offer the services of what Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, described yesterday as Britain's "world-class Armed Forces" to tackle the peacekeeping commitments that are expected to proliferate during the next few years.

In the week when 650 British troops have set off for a peacekeeping mission in Angola, and there are renewed fears for the safety of the 3,400 soldiers serving in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the White Paper said the Government expected to see "growing calls on the United Kingdom to support conflict prevention, conflict resolution, peacekeeping and humanitarian aid missions".

However, any decision to contribute soldiers will depend on whether there are "clear and achievable objectives" and whether the mandate for the operation is "precise and finite".

The Armed Forces will also continue to train and equip for participating in high-intensity wars. Capable all-round forces were still needed, the White Paper said. To that end, Mr Rifkind announced that a new permanent joint forces headquarters, capable of masterminding every type of conflict, would begin operating by April 1 next year at Northwood, the present site of the Royal Navy's fleet headquarters on the outskirts of west London.

The White Paper warned that although the era of ideological confrontation with the former Soviet Union was gone, "it would be imprudent to write off entirely the possibility that a strategic threat could re-emerge".

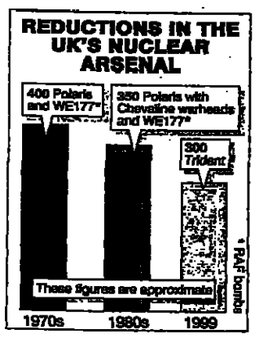
Dismissing Labour's constant call for a full defence review, Mr Rifkind said the Government had now delivered what had been promised five years ago when the Options for Change defence study led to proposals for substantial cuts in manpower and equipment. The promise was for smaller but better equipped Armed Forces.

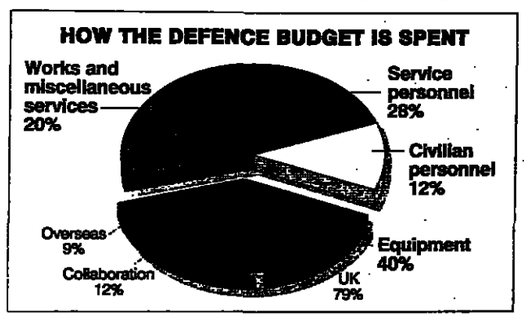
With a substantial re-equipment programme well under way, the White Paper highlighted further orders for advanced systems that would be partly paid for out of savings achieved during last year's Frontline First review, that cut support services.

Mr Rifkind said the new systems would include a substantial upgrade to the communications systems used by the Navy's submarines, and *modernisation of the Royal* Engineers' specialised equipment, such as mobile bridges, so that they could be mounted on the hulls of the new Challenger 2 tank.

The White Paper emphasised the reduction in Britain's nuclear forces. The number of operational nuclear warheads will have been cut by 21 per cent since the 1970s "to fewer than 300" by 1999, when four Vanguard class submarines armed with Trident ballistic missiles will *represent the sole deterrent in* Britain's nuclear armoury.

☐ *Statement on the Defence Estimates 1995* (HMSO; £12.80)







Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, announcing this year's estimates for defence manpower yesterday

MoD confident that safety measures would cope with nuclear accident

BY MICHAEL EVANS

AN INSIGHT into how the Government would handle a nuclear accident in Britain is detailed for the first time in the Government's Defence White Paper.

Although the risk from nuclear weapons and reactors is described as very small, civil and military agencies regularly rehearse how they would respond in an emergency. Last year the Ministry of Defence held two major exercises, 13 medium ones and more than 50 minor drills, each involving members of the Royal Navy and RAF nuclear accident response organisations.

In April, a full-scale field training exercise, codenamed Diver Mist, was mounted in Suffolk. The aim was to test how British emergency services would work with the Americans if a US warhead was involved. The premise for the four-day exercise, in which 1,400 took part, was that an aircraft carrying nuclear weapons had crashed.

The other big exercise last year, codenamed Short Sermon, simulated a nuclear reactor accident on a Royal Navy submarine in Portsmouth naval base. In one of the smaller nuclear exercises, a vehicle carrying nuclear weapons in a road convoy was involved in an accident.

The White Paper said there were strict procedures for the storage, transport and handling of nuclear weapons and the operation of reactors. An independent overview was provided by a number of organisations, including the Nuclear Powered Warships Safety Committee and the Nuclear Weapon Safety Committee.

In the event of a nuclear accident, safeguarding the public and MoD employees would be the main priority. The MoD would deploy a range of specialised response forces, including technical experts able to deal with the reactor or weapon involved, radiation monitoring forces to determine the spread of contamination, and health and safety experts to advise the public.

By the end of the decade, the Ministry of Defence will handle only Trident nuclear systems, totalling about 300 warheads. The RAF's 100 WE177 nuclear bombs are being scrapped by 1998 and all other previous British nuclear weapons, including naval nuclear depth bombs and Lance ground-based missiles, have already been axed.

The White Paper said there had never been an accident involving British nuclear weapons or submarine reactors which had posed any hazard to the public. The MoD was confident that the stringent safety procedures, "coupled with the safety of our nuclear weapons and reactor designs", would continue to prevent any accidents.

Coroner says fuel leak led to deaths of cadets

A CORONER yesterday blamed a faulty petrol cap for the fire which burnt to death two Oxford students after an accident. The inquest jury returned verdicts of misadventure on the two Army cadets.

David Masters, the Wiltshire coroner, said that Karen Buttenshaw, 19, and her best friend, Rebecca Norris, 20, had died as a result of burns when their Army Land-Rover burst into flames, because the petrol cap had not been properly fitted.

The vehicle had rolled backwards down a hill, somersaulted and caught fire on a training exercise on Salisbury Plain last October.

Mr Masters said at the hearing in Salisbury: "It is clear the cause of death in reality was the petrol cap coming off the Land-Rover, allowing the petrol to escape and then ignite."

Sergeant Major Trevor Beardsmore, who was in charge of the 40 cadets and eight officers taking part in the exercise, tried desperately to drag the women free but was beaten back by the flames. His heroism was praised by Mr Masters.

The jury had been told that that Miss Buttenshaw, who was driving the vehicle, had not passed her driving test and that Sergeant Major Beardsmore did not have the up-to-date instruction qualifications.

Mr Masters called on a review panel and board of inquiry to look at the circumstances under which an unqualified driver should be permitted to drive an Army vehicle; when such a driver should be permitted to drive an Army vehicle without a supervising instructor present; the type of fire extinguisher carried; the provision of communication equipment in the event of an emergency; the advisability of using diesel fuel Land-Rovers in such exercises; the use of a checklist; and regulations regarding qualifications of off-road Army driving instructors.

Amateur rocket cleared for liftoff

BY NICK NUTTALL

AN AMATEUR rocket engineer has been given the go-ahead to launch a sugar-powered spacecraft more than two miles into the sky above mid-Wales.

Steve Bennett, 35, a laboratory technician from Manchester, has been given approval by the police, the Civil Aviation Authority and the Health and Safety Executive.

He has been working on his "Starchaser" rocket for several years and claims the 10ft craft will travel at 900ft a second and has a range of six miles.

Mr Bennett, a devoted fan of the television puppet series *Thunderbirds*, said yesterday: "I'm absolutely thrilled. I had to get through a lot of red tape. There's virtually no air traffic, power cables or buildings at the site chosen. After this my ultimate ambition is to send a rocket 50 miles into space."

He plans to launch the rocket later this month at Sarn, Powys. If all goes to plan it will fly two and a half miles and parachute down to be recovered. In case things don't go to plan, Mr Bennett has been obliged to take out a hefty insurance policy.

Alan Bond, inventor of the engines that would have powered Britain's first space plane, Hotol, said last night that amateur enthusiasts in America had launched rockets with sugar propellants.

Help for thalidomide victims

Guinness gives extra £37m to bolster compensation

BY JEREMY LAURANCE AND ANDREW PIERCE

VICTIMS of the drug thalidomide who have lived for 30 years with their deformities are to receive millions of pounds in extra compensation.

The 458 survivors of the tragedy, who were born in the early 1960s without arms and legs, are to share extra funding worth £37.5 million over the next 15 years. The money is being made available by Guinness, which took over the Distillers company whose subsidiary made thalidomide.

The drug was given to pregnant women in the 1960s to stop morning sickness but it caused thousands of deformities in Britain, Germany and Australia. The extra funds will be handed to the Thalidomide Trust, the charity that supports victims in Britain. The trust, which makes annual payments of between £2,000 and £19,000 to survivors depending on their degree of disability, gave warning last year that it would run out of money by 2009 unless its capital was increased.

The trust was set up in 1973 with £22 million from Distillers, which denied liability, and £6 million from the Government. It has paid out £67 million in the past 22 years and has £62 million remaining. Last year and this year it was forced for the first time to eat into capital to maintain its annual payments of £5 million. Earlier this year it announced it was freezing payments at existing levels for two years.

Thalidomide victims, now in their early 30s, have survived longer than doctors expected and their needs are growing. About a dozen have died since the trust started making payments. Some of those most severely affected set up the Thalidomide Action Group and staged a hunger strike last year to press Guinness and the Government for more help.

Last January they began buying shares in Guinness and planned to lobby the company's annual meeting on May 18. Last night they vowed to continue to fight for more financial aid. Freddie Astbury, 35, Britain's second oldest thalidomide victim, said: "Of course we are grateful for every penny we receive but until today we were the forgotten people. Unfortunately for the authorities the thalidomide children grew up. People thought we were millionaires because of the compensation our parents received but this is not the case."

The extra funds from Guinness will be paid in annual donations of £2.5 million to the Thalidomide Trust over the next 15 years, equivalent to more than £5,000 a year extra for each beneficiary.

However, David Simpson, administrator of the trust, said there would be only "modest" increases in payments to the victims. "We have got to look to the future, to extend the period over which we can make payments," he said.

Tony Greener, chairman of Guinness, said: "The Thalidomide Trust has provided responsible and caring support for the beneficiaries over the past 22 years and we want to make sure that, with extra financial support, they will continue to be able to do so. We hope that the Government will now be encouraged to consider further help for the beneficiaries."



Victim: Freddie Astbury

Dimbleby seeks ban on bland houses

BY NICK NUTTALL
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

A CAMPAIGN to end the bland, featureless, house-building that blights many pretty towns and villages is launched today by conservationists, writers and actors.

The broadcaster Jonathan Dimbleby, who is president of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE), is urging the Government to use its rural White Paper to end the damage that mass-produced computer-designed buildings inflict on the countryside.

"We have allowed the bulk of recent development, particularly housing, to leach the distinctiveness from rural towns and villages across the country," he said. Mr Dimbleby called on local authorities and community groups fiercely to resist "off-the-peg" property schemes whose roofs, bricks and windows owe little to the landscapes in which they stand.

The campaigners instead want "dialect" and a sense of place restored to the regions by restoring the cob and thatch cottage-style to Devon, timber-framed houses in Essex and the West Midlands, and flint in north Norfolk. "Future generations deserve a countryside enhanced rather than impoverished by new development," Mr Dimbleby said.

The CPRE's campaign is being backed by the dramatist Alan Bennett. "My bugbear in North Yorkshire is new doors on old houses of the Kentucky Fried Georgian variety, new picture windows and badly converted barns stained a depressing dark brown," he said.

Sir Roy Strong, the former director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, said yesterday: "Whether we are in Norfolk or Cornwall the buildings are of an homogenised mediocrity. We urgently need a new rural architecture which will give us back what has been so savagely eroded, a sense of place."

The CPRE is making 28 recommendations to the Government, local authorities and builders to secure better designs in new rural developments. Those include policies to wean developers from "pattern books" and more powers for councils to reject planning applications on the design alone.

In its campaigning booklet, *Local Attraction*, the council praises some local authorities for insisting that new buildings echo historic designs, including thatch, stone and slate roofs. A development at South Creake, Norfolk, is praised for enhancing the village, as are new cottages at Abbotsbury, Dorset.

Generalitat de Catalunya
Autonomous Government of Catalonia

VII PREMI INTERNACIONAL CATALUNYA 1995



Václav Havel *Richard von Weizsäcker*

for the ethical dimension of their political careers.

The Generalitat de Catalunya awards the Premi Internacional Catalunya through the Institut Català d'Estudis Mediterranis. It is endowed with 10,000 ECU's and a bronze sculpture. It is awarded annually to those persons whose work has made a decisive contribution to the development of cultural, scientific or human values around the world. The candidatures are presented by academics, centres of culture or investigation from all over the world.

The winners of the award to date are: from 1993: Karl R. Popper, philosopher. 1994: Abdus Salam, physicist. Carl Jacques-Yves Cousteau, oceanographer. 1995: Mstislav Rostropovitch, 'cellist. 1994: Luigi Luca Cavalli-Sforza, geneticist. 1993: Edgar Morin, sociologist.

THE JURY: ***Jordi Pujol,*** President of the Catalan Government. ***Shlomo Ben Ami,*** historian. Tel Aviv University. ***Enric Argullol,*** Rector of the Universitat Pompeu Fabra. Barcelona. ***Ricard Bofill,*** architect. Barcelona. ***Abdelwahab Bouhdiba,*** sociologist. Tunis. ***Xavier Bru de Sala,*** writer. Barcelona. ***Umberto Colombo,*** physical chemist. Rome. ***Georges Duby,*** historian. Aix-en-Provence. ***Núria Espert,*** actress and theatre director. Madrid. ***Tahar Ben Jelloun,*** novelist. Tangier. ***Hugues de Jouvenel,*** prospectivist. Paris. ***Massimo Livi-Bacci,*** demographer. Florence. ***Andreu Mas Colell,*** economist. Harvard University. ***Federico Mayor Zaragoza,*** director general of UNESCO. ***Simon Nora,*** financier. Paris. ***Joan Oró.*** biochemist. University of Houston. ***Baltasar Porcel,*** writer. Majorca. ***Mstislav Rostropovitch,*** 'cellist. Moscow. ***Hugh Thomas, historian.*** London. ***Gustavo Villapalos,*** Rector of the Universidad Complutense. Madrid.

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GERMANS SURRENDER IN NORTH-WEST

HOLLAND AND DENMARK TO BE FREED

CAPITULATION AT 8 A.M. TO-DAY

SOUTHERN "REDOUBT" SPLIT INTO FRAGMENTS

A special announcement at Supreme Headquarters last night stated:—

"Field-Marshal Montgomery has reported to the Supreme Allied Commander that all enemy forces in Holland, north-west Germany, and Denmark, including Heligoland and the Frisian Islands, have surrendered to the 21st Army Group, effective at 8 a.m. to-morrow (British double summer time). This is a battle-field surrender involving the forces now facing the 21st Army Group on their northern and western flanks.

In the south the so-called redoubt has been split into isolated fragments. Salzburg has surrendered, and Innsbrück, the centre of the redoubt, has also fallen.

General Patch's Seventh Army has advanced through the Brenner Pass to make a junction with General Mark Clark's Fifth Army.

BIGGEST MASS SURRENDER

1,000,000 GERMANS INVOLVED

Bill Downs, C.B.S. correspondent, in a broadcast from north-western Germany last night, said:—

More than a million Germans have surrendered on Field-Marshal Montgomery's 21st Army Group front. It was the biggest mass surrender of German forces since the armistice of 1918.

A German surrender mission, headed by General Admiral von Freideberg, Commander-in-Chief of the German Navy, signed the articles of unconditional surrender for the German land, sea, and air forces facing the Canadian First Army and the British Second Army at 6.25 this evening. Field-Marshal Montgomery signed on behalf of the Allied Supreme Commander-in-Chief, General Eisenhower.

The signing took place in a weather-beaten camp set up especially for the ceremony on the German Army training ground at Luneberg Heath, south of Hamburg. Field-Marshal Montgomery, as he walked to the tent where the official signing took place, commented to the reporters: "This is the moment."

On Wednesday General Blumentritt, commander of the so-called "Army Group Blumentritt," hoisted a white flag and sent an emissary to the British Second Army. He said he commanded all the forces between the Baltic and the River Weser and wanted to surrender his army group. General Dempsey replied that he should start moving and a rendezvous was arranged for yesterday (Thursday).

General Blumentritt did not appear yesterday, but sent word that negotiations were going on on a much higher level than his military station. He could not negotiate.

It was yesterday that a forward party of four higher military officials again hoisted a white flag and drove into the British lines. The head of the party was General-Admiral von Freideberg, commander-in-Chief of the German Navy.—*Reuter.*

F.-M. VON KLEIST TAKEN

WITH UNITED STATES THIRD ARMY, May 4.—Field-Marshal von Kleist, former commander of the *Wehrmacht* "A" Group, accompanied by his wife, his field-marshal's baton, and 25 handbags, surrendered to-day to the troops of the 26th Infantry Division.

Kleist told the Americans that he wanted to be spared the embarrassment of being captured "in the presence of the common retreating German soldiers." At first he refused to surrender to a pair of American privates, demanding that an officer be found, but he later changed his mind. The Americans found an abundance of drugs and drawers filled with hypodermic needles and morphine when they entered his home at Mitterfeld.

Kleist commanded the German force which broke through into France in the summer of 1940, and two years later led the Germans into the Caucasus oilfield.—*Reuter.*

SURRENDER IN ITALY

GERMAN DELEGATION RECEIVED

IN NORTH ITALY, May 4.—A German military delegation of five senior officers, headed by the Junker General von Senger und Etterlin, representing General von Viettinghoff-Scheel, arrived at General Mark Clark's headquarters this morning to implement officially the unconditional surrender of Viettinghoff's forces in Italy and west Austria.

The delegation was received by General Mark Clark and his army commanders, Generals McCreery and Truscott, commanding the Eighth and the Fifth Armies respectively. General Clark instructed Lieutenant-General Gruenther, his chief of staff, to conduct the conference to cover the details of the surrender plan.

After the conference General Gruenther reported: "German officers are showing an attitude of the greatest cooperation."

The German officers looked desperately tired and black rings could be seen round their eyes. Von Senger's chief concern seemed to be the partisan activity. When asked if he had any questions, he said: "I want to emphasize that the carrying out of the terms has been made difficult because of the acts of the partisans. I myself have experienced this personally. If the partisans continue attempts to disarm Germans it is impossible to avoid clashes."

General Gruenther assured the Germans that General Mark Clark had plans ready for this emergency.

The talks will continue during the next few days, when the questions of supplies and feeding thousands of Germans will be discussed. The surrendered soldiers will be interned in great camps to be set up in Italy.—*Reuter.*

BERCHTESGADEN TAKEN

U.S SEVENTH ARMY H.Q., May 4.—Berchtesgaden has been captured, it was announced here officially to-night.—*Reuter.*

FIFTH AND SEVENTH ARMIES MEET

AMERICANS ACROSS THE BRENNER

From Our Special Correspondent

PARIS, May 4

After a night drive in snow and ice through the Brenner Pass into Italy, troops of General Patch's Seventh Army this morning joined forces with the Fifth Army at Vipiteno, about 10 miles to the south-west.

This junction in surrendered territory has little operational significance, but it marks the end of an extraordinary campaign for General Patch, whose forces left Italy last year for the landing in southern France, and, by way of the Rhône, the Rhine, and Bavaria, have now completed the cycle back again—a cycle that has seen the utter collapse of the enemy on a succession of dissolving fronts. Aptly enough the present junction was made from the north by troops of the VI Corps, who were in the vanguard of the attack on Rome. So virtually ends the Wagnerian imaginings of the mountain redoubt, which, frustrated by the speed of the allied drive across Bavaria, apparently never got out of the planning stage.

Before pushing into the Brenner, where they were barely opposed by a few dazed Italian troops, the 103rd Division had captured Innsbrück, and columns are advancing east down the Inn valley. While General Patton, driving south-east, is closing on Linz, a cavalry unit of the Seventh Army this morning made a 25-mile dash to Salzburg, which was surrendered by the garrison commander without a fight.

TWO ARMIES YIELD TO U.S. DIVISION

ALLIED H.Q., May 4.—The remnants of two German armies—the Ninth and Twelfth—surrendered to-day to the American 102nd Infantry Division on the American Ninth Army front.

The 11th Panzer Division completed its surrender to the American 90th Infantry Division.—*Reuter.*

PUSHING INTO MORAVIA

RUSSIANS OVER THE MOUNTAINS

FAVOURABLE TERRAIN

From Our Own Correspondent

MOSCOW, May 4

Attention is now centred on the Bohemian fortress and on General Eremenko's promising operations on the eastern approaches to it. His group of armies, which has hitherto been saddled with the difficulties of operating on a front split by mountain ranges of formidable height and complexity, have now reached more favourable ground. The fall of Teschen, on the Czech-Polish border, marks the final breakdown of German resistance between Opava and the western Beskids and clears the way for a general advance through the Moravian Gate.

Already the Russians have pushed on to Frydek along the main road that runs straight through flat easy country towards Prerov. To the south-east other units, who are making use of the excellent system of mountain highways that the Czechs built and the Germans expanded before their attack on Poland, have broken the resistance on the forest-clad Javornicky range, and are streaming down to the rolling spaces of Moravia. West of the White Carpathians the Red Army is sweeping on towards Prerov. Yesterday the great industrial centre of Zlin, the model city where the Bata concern made shoes, motor tyres, and aeroplane parts, was taken from the south.

The 4th Ukrainian front has not many tanks, and most of the fighting is falling on the infantry. Advances are not spectacular, but during the past 10 days much difficult terrain has been passed, and strong forces are now moving towards the vital gap between the Czech-Moravian highlands and the Sudeten mountains.

IN BLAZING BERLIN

Berlin was still burning last night, but thousands of Germans have already been put to work clearing the débris and isolating fires. Coaches are being dragged from the wrecked tube railway. Most of the Friedrichstrasse has caved in on to the underground railway lines. The Imperial Chancery burns on, and the Russians, who entered it through a hole in the wall, had to wear gas masks to get into Hitler's office. Göring's *Luftwaffe* building is also on fire. The dome roof of the Reichstag has collapsed.

German prisoners were still coming in yesterday. Large groups were forced by hunger and thirst to emerge from the vast air raid shelter under the *Luftwaffe* Ministry. A regiment of the S.S. gave themselves up after firing a few desultory shots. A rash of white flags has spread right across the city. There are red flags on the top of the Reichstag, on the Brandenburg Gate, which the Russians scaled, and on the Soviet Embassy. Unter den Linden is described as impassable, but gradually the main streets are being cleared.

The early resumption of economic relations between Poland and Sweden is expected to result from a visit to Poland of Swedish business men, which is now understood to be imminent. The port of Danzig is virtually intact and will play an important part in the exchanges of commodities that are expected to develop.

"TOAST OF THE UNITED NATIONS"

"IKE'S" MESSAGE TO "ALEX"

The following is the text of General Dwight D. Eisenhower's congratulatory message to Field-Marshal Sir Harold Alexander on the occasion of the surrender of the German army in Italy:—

Dear Alex,—You and your great command are the toast of the United Nations. Your brilliant successes should give even the stupid German final proof that he is finished. I am happy for you and for all our peoples. It looks as if you and I could soon keep our long-standing engagement to join up our forces, in the heart of the enemy's homeland. My very best to you and to my old friends serving on your all-star team.—IKE.

ESCAPE SHIPS SUNK

Fighter-bombers of the R.A.F. 2nd T.A.F. continued yesterday their attacks against the remnants of German shipping fleeing from the Baltic coast to Denmark and Norway. The weather was not so good as on Thursday, but 10 ships were sunk and 61 were damaged in the first 400 sorties flown.

In attacks on the few remaining *Luftwaffe* airfields, 11 aircraft were destroyed on the ground. Another was shot down in combat.



CONTROL OF GERMANY

TASK OF ALLIED COMMISSION

PLANS NOW READY

From Our Diplomatic Correspondent

The end in Germany is now very near. Virtually the whole of the country has been overrun by the allied armies. The time is approaching when a central Control Commission will take up its duties and put into force the policies which have been concerted by the major allied Powers.

The problem is both different in nature from and vaster in scope than that which faced the victorious allies in 1918. Then the Reich was rent by faction and violence, but it had not been invaded except for some small areas, and it had suffered little from bombing. The governmental and administrative structure remained, transport was working, and there had been no dispersal of whole communities. To-day Germany is a vast chaos, without a government, with her administrative machine smashed, her industries in ruins, her people uprooted, her organized life disrupted to its roots. The allied Control Commission will take over a broken nation.

In the Crimea agreement provision was made for the setting up of the central Control Commission consisting of the Supreme Commanders of Great Britain, Russia, the United States, and France, with headquarters in Berlin. Who the British representative will be has not yet been publicly announced; the choice seems to lie between Field-Marshal Sir Harold Alexander and Field-Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery. General Eisenhower will be the American representative. This body will be the real ruler of Germany, entrusted with the responsibility of ensuring the carrying out of allied policies. Whether the seat of government will in fact be Berlin remains to be seen; that depends on the results of a survey of the facilities remaining in the battered capital.

AFTER SURRENDER

Since it was established in December, 1943, the European Advisory Commission has drawn up a detailed plan for the administration of Germany after unconditional surrender has been enforced. The plans are ready, but it may be found that they will need to be extended in view of the completeness of the internal German collapse. An early official statement detailing the administration to be set up may be expected, but in the meantime certain assumptions may be made. There is no intention of trying to bring into existence a German Government. The Control Commission will issue the orders; Germans will have to obey them. Under the Commission will be agencies or divisions covering every phase of public and economic life. In a way these will be very much like ministries, and their work will, presumably, be coordinated by some other authority immediately below the Control Commission.

The British component—"element" is the official designation—is in an advanced stage of preparation. Mr. Ivone Kirkpatrick, formerly in the British Embassy in Berlin, and Major-General S. W. Kirby, have done excellent work in building up the organization. A large staff has been recruited. Sir Percy Mills, formerly Controller-General of Machine Tools, is head of the economic division, which will have a cardinal part to play in preventing German rearmament. The chemical industry, for example, will require the closest supervision. It is not an industry which can be just stopped; for, although so important to the German war potential, it is equally vital to agriculture and other essential activities. What is to happen to such industrial areas as the Ruhr does not seem to have been decided yet. Discussions have taken place on bringing it under some form of international control.

LESSON OF THE CAMPS

In directing the life of post-war Germany one of the Control Commission's gravest responsibilities will be the re-education of the nation. This will be an immense task. The right kind of teachers will have to be found, school books will have to be revised, and a different spirit infused if the new generation is to learn the practice of peace. The revelations of the concentration camps have shown only too clearly the depth to which the national debauchment has gone. Almost every day new details reach London of the systematic horrors organized and tolerated. At Belsen, according to a doctor who was recently there, one practice was to inject petrol into the bodies of victims so that they might burn more readily. Something, but not all, is becoming known of conditions in the camp at Ravensbruck, where, it is stated, victims were gassed in a room by the fumes from a motor-car. Sterilization was also practised. There can be no illusions among those who will soon be directing German life about the difficulty of transforming the mentality which made the concentration camps possible.

The four zones of occupation—the British in the north-west, the American in the south and south-west, with the French in between, and the Russian in the east—have not yet been finally delimited. Within these zones each commander will carry out the directions of the Central Commission. The Germans themselves will have to be called on to help in running the country, and one of the most serious problems will be to eliminate all Nazis. There is at present little information of the extent to which surviving leaders of the fallen régime have made their plans for reorganizing the movement underground. The activities of such desperadoes as the "Werewolves" will be rigorously dealt with.

Allied Military Government will continue to function in occupied Germany until it merges into the larger organization which will take over the control of Germany as a whole. The duration of such control is unpredictable, but it will certainly last long enough to eliminate the militarism which twice within a generation has brought such sorrow to the peoples of the world.

INTERNEES RELEASED IN DENMARK

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

STOCKHOLM, May 4

The Danish police to-day began to set free all political prisoners and internees in the so-called police camps. It is significant of the situation in Copenhagen that to-day it was possible to say openly on the telephone to Stockholm, "All Denmark awaits the moment to welcome the Desert Rats."

"HAW HAW" IN DENMARK

HAMBURG, May 4.—William Joyce ("Haw Haw") left for Denmark by car on Wednesday night. This was told me to-day by the chief censor at the Hamburg wireless station. An uncensored script went with Joyce, and the other British wireless quislings joined the convoy.—*Reuter.*

ANONYMOUS B.B.C. NEWS

The B.B.C. news announcer's name is no longer being broadcast. At the end of the 9 o'clock bulletin last night there was a note explaining that this war-time emergency measure, started in 1940 for security purposes, is no longer necessary. In the general forces programme announcers' names will be continued for a short period for technical reasons.

MORE SETTLED WEATHER

After a finer and sunny day the weather seemed a little more settled in the Straits of Dover last night. The barometer, which had fallen for 48 hours, steadied in the day and rose slightly. The wind was changeable, backing to north-west before dark after blowing strongly for a time from the south-west.

THE SEIZURE OF RANGOON

PORT SOON OPEN TO SHIPPING

DEMOLITION FOILED

A special announcement from S.E.A.C. headquarters yesterday stated:—

In a series of battles of great intensity the Japanese armies in Burma have been so decisively defeated that they were unable effectively to defend the port of Rangoon. Ninety-seven thousand of their dead have been counted in the last 15 months of fighting.

The occupation of Rangoon by a successful combined operation was the culmination of a long series of concerted S.E.A.C. operations carried out by the Fourteenth Army, which crossed the Chindwin and Irrawaddy rivers to break into central Burma; by the forces of the Northern Combat Area Command, which advanced from the north; and by the XV Indian Corps, which carried out a series of amphibious hooks down the Burma coast. All these operations were supported and supplied by air on a scale never attempted hitherto in any theatre of war.

The speed of our operations and their synchronization, outpacing the planning capacity of the Japanese and narrowly beating the onslaught of the imminent monsoon, enabled the port of Rangoon to be seized before its installations could be destroyed. Reports indicate that the inner harbour will be open to shipping in a very few days.

The forces responsible for this outstanding success and for the liberation of the greater part of Burma include the Chinese divisions, an American brigade, and a British division which fought with the Northern Combat Area Command; the Fourteenth Army, comprising British, Indian, and African troops of the IV Corps and the XXXIII Indian Corps; the XV Indian Corps, with British, Indian, and African troops; Nos. 221 and 224 Groups, Royal Air Force; the Strategic Air Force and the Allied Air Transport Squadrons of Eastern Air Command; the Royal Navy, the Royal Indian Navy, and allied war vessels.

BATTLE OF BURMA ENDED

ADMIRAL MOUNTBATTEN'S ORDER OF THE DAY

The following order of the day by Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten has been sent to Admiral Sir Arthur Power, Commander-in-Chief, East Indies Fleet, Lieutenant-General Sir Oliver Leese, Commander-in-Chief, allied land forces, South-East Asia, and Air Marshal Sir Keith Park, allied Air Commander-in-Chief, South-East Asia.

You have won the race for Rangoon and beaten the monsoon as well as the Japanese. The fall of the capital 10 days before the rains and storms will be upon you brings to an end the battle of Burma, for although isolated pockets of the enemy remain their doom is now sealed.

From the Chinese armies in the north, who fought their way with the American Brigade down to Lashio, to the British and Indian and East and West African Division, who have fought from Kohima to Rangoon, you have covered in this great battle 1,000 miles of the worst country in the world, and under the world's worst climate and conditions. In the process you have killed 97,000 Japanese and inflicted 250,000 casualties. You have, in fact, given the enemy such a beating and harried him so hard that the vaunted Japanese army, about whose toughness and fanaticism we had heard so much, has in some cases pulled out rather than face your final assault.

Your victories have been a magnificent example of inter-service, inter-allied cooperation. To achieve them the ground forces have not only received the normal air support but have had to be supplied by air on a scale never before achieved, and American air forces have worked with the Royal Air Force right to the capture of Rangoon. Meanwhile the Royal Navy have cut the enemy's sea communications and have made possible a series of amphibious hooks round the coast of Arakan, culminating in a combined operation in which the XV Corps assaulted Rangoon from the sea just as the Fourteenth Army approached the town from the north.

The liberation of Burma, in which we have had the active assistance of the Burmese, marks not only the successful accomplishment of the first stage in your advance. It will also be your springboard for further and greater victories.

Yesterday's S.E.A.C. report stated:—

"In the Irrawaddy sector the capture of Prome, on the east bank, has cut off large forces of Japanese to the west."

VICEROY'S MESSAGE

DELHI, May 4.—Lord Wavell, who is in London, in a message of congratulation to Admiral Mountbatten, says: "The Government of India and I send our warmest congratulations on the capture of Rangoon and the brilliant campaign leading up to it. Our thoughts are with you and with your victorious sea, land, and air forces, which include so many sons of India."—*Reuter.*

LONDON TRANSPORT WORKERS RETURN

STRIKE EXPECTED TO END THIS WEEK-END

The London bus and tram strike took a turn for the better yesterday and at two garages work was resumed.

After meetings last night a representative of the central bus committee of the Transport and General Workers' Union stated that the strike may end at the week-end with the resumption of work to-morrow.

Late last night it was announced that 500 workers at Bromley garage will start work again to-day.

Yesterday morning the 640 busmen at the Croydon and Elmers End garages returned to work.

Workers at the Bromley garage have also decided to work the full summer schedule instead of "going slow." An official at Bromley said last night: "We are going back in view of the tramway committee's recommendation to their members to return, which they are considering at meetings to-night and to-morrow, and as sympathetic action in view of the splendid news of the success of our allied arms."

The congestion at the homeward rush-hour at King's Cross and St. Pancras underground stations last night was under control and the public inconvenience much less.

ROYAL FAMILY AT TROOPS' CONCERT

The King and Queen, with the Princesses Elizabeth and Margaret, were present last night at an entertainment for troops at Windsor. A large dining hall, converted into a theatre for the occasion, was filled with soldiers.

TUBE SHELTERS TO CLOSE

The 79 passenger stations on the tube systems of London Transport which have been used as air raid shelters since the first London raids of 1940, will be closed as shelters after to-morrow night. London Transport has been authorized by the Regional Commissioner to take this action. The shelters in disused tunnels and stations, such as Aldwych and the British Museum, are not affected at present.

PARLIAMENT AND VE DAY

CONTINGENT PLANS

From Our Parliamentary Correspondent

On completing the day's business yesterday, the House of Commons adjourned until Tuesday, the day on which both Houses at present begin the Parliamentary week. If the war in Europe should cease this week-end it would be possible—if this was thought necessary—to summon Parliament for a special sitting before Tuesday, but when M.P.s left Westminster yesterday afternoon any such recall was regarded as unlikely. Should hostilities come to an end when the House of Commons is not sitting the first official announcement would come in a broadcast from the Prime Minister.

Whenever the good news of the ending of the war in Europe is given to the House of Commons, it is expected that after hearing the statement that Mr. Churchill will make and some congratulatory speeches by other party leaders, the House will adjourn. If the hour is convenient members will then go in procession, led by the Speaker, to a service of thanksgiving at St. Margaret's Church. A late announcement in the House would probably mean that the service would be held the following day. The House of Lords will adopt a similar procedure, with a service of thanksgiving to be held in Westminster Abbey. Whether Parliament will sit to transact business on the day after VE Day has not yet been decided.

The national service of thanksgiving to be held in London on the Sunday after VE Day will be at St. Paul's Cathedral. The King and Queen will be present at this service and they will be accompanied by the Prime Minister and other members of the Government.

OTHER ARRANGEMENTS

West End cinemas are to close on VE Day and VE+1. Suburban theatres will remain open.

The National Chamber of Trade recommends that shops in the non-food trades should follow the lead given by the Government, subject to the actual time when the official announcement is made, and any special recommendations of the organizations of specific trades. If the announcement is made during the hours of open shop, traders should close their premises for the remainder of the day and all the next day. Should VE Day be on a Friday, consideration will be given to substituting Monday for the second day of the holiday in towns where market day is Saturday.

Several east London factories, expecting that VE Day will come on a Friday, have brought forward their weekly pay day to Thursday or Wednesday.

The Recorder of London, Sir Gerald Dodson, yesterday said that if a VE Day announcement was made during the week-end the Courts would not sit on Monday, as transport might be difficult on that day.

Licensees in the Metropolitan Police District will be granted a concession for drinks until midnight on VE Day on application at the nearest police station.

Mr. Duncan Sandys, Minister of Works, has ordered that new and bigger Union Jacks are to fly from Government buildings in London.

DUCE IMPENITENT TO THE LAST

CARDINAL ON HIS LAST VAIN APPEAL

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

MILAN, May 4

Cardinal Schuster, Archbishop of Milan, has given me striking particulars of the final interview he had with Mussolini on the afternoon of April 25, which represented the culmination of the cardinal's efforts to save northern Italy from further bloodshed and destruction.

Cardinal Schuster was acutely conscious of the opportunity this crisis offered for the Church. "There was a soul to be saved and Italy to be saved." He placed Mussolini in a corner of his sofa and himself took a chair. One can imagine the white-haired, ascetic-looking cardinal, who nevertheless has a humorous twinkle in his eye, pleading with the fallen Duce. He urged him to accept the same fate as Napoleon and surrender to the allies.

Mussolini promised he would disband all the Italian armies but would himself retire to the Valtellina valley in the mountains beyond Lake Como with 3,000 Blackshirts. "That means continuing resistance," remarked the cardinal. Mussolini demurred—"Only for two or three days."

"GIFT FROM GOD"

"Do you imagine you would get 3,000, or even 300?" asked the cardinal. Mussolini sadly assented, "Perhaps a few less than 300." The Cardinal then urged Mussolini to face the sad days which were to come, and accept them as a gift from God and an opportunity to repent, as expiation for the past. He presented Mussolini with a copy of his life of St. Benedict.

In reply to a question how he found Mussolini's spiritual dispositions, the cardinal shook his head sadly. "Ah no," he replied, "He is still far from religious belief. His was not the soul of a penitent. It might have been possible in time to work on him, but there was not time."

ARGENTINE RIOTS

CELEBRATING THE FALL OF BERLIN

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

BUENOS AIRES, May 4

Rioting occurred last night in Buenos Aires and other Argentine cities when attempts were made to celebrate the fall of Berlin in spite of a warning by the police that they would fire on demonstrators.

One policeman was shot dead and four were wounded in Buenos Aires, and another was killed in Cordoba. A civilian was also killed and several were wounded.

The police took special precautions. The streets of Buenos Aires were filled with mounted, foot, and motorized police, with carbines and tear-gas squads. Troops occupied public buildings and telegraph offices. The most serious incident occurred when fire was opened against the police from a taxicab. It is said that more than 100 shots were exchanged in three minutes. The police connect the disorders with an alleged plot to overthrow the Argentine Government.

OBITUARY

MR. HERBERT FARJEON

We announce with regret the death of MR. HERBERT FARJEON, author, dramatic critic, and theatrical manager.

A memoir and *The Times* list of Fallen Officers will be found on page 7.

MORE BRITISH FREED BY RED ARMY

The War Office confirms that Stalag 3A, Luckenwalde, has been liberated by the Red Army. This camp contains 1,200 British officers transferred from Stalag Luft 3 and some 2,400 other ranks, of whom about 1,300 are R.A.F. n.c.o.s transferred from Stalag Luft 7. It is also confirmed that Stalag 4B, containing 8,000 British prisoners of war, has been liberated by the Red Army. Next-of-kin will be informed as soon as the names of liberated prisoners have been received.

"BIG FIVE" AT CONFERENCE

INCLUSION OF FRANCE

SHARE IN PRIVATE MEETINGS

From Our Special Correspondent

SAN FRANCISCO, May 4

Britain, the United States, the U.S.S.R., and China have decided to invite France to all the private meetings which they will hold during the United Nations conference. Since the conference began hardly a day has passed without such a conference among the "big four." They have discussed the work of the conference and their own individual amendments to the Dumbarton Oaks proposals. Probably they will meet again just as frequently to discuss important amendments put forward by others. But henceforth they will be meetings of the "big five."

An unhappy anomaly in France's position here is thus removed. Before the conference France was assured of one of the five permanent seats on the Security Council: her status as a great Power was thus acknowledged. But since General de Gaulle declined to let France join in sponsoring the conference, believing that her right to put forward amendments would be fettered, all private meetings on the work of the conference have necessarily been restricted to the "big four." Undoubtedly the French delegations felt their position keenly: in speeches and at his Press conference M. Bidault has tended to be on the defensive. There is a general welcome now that France takes her proper place. The first meeting of the "big five" was held last night on the trusteeship proposals.

SUCCESS PREDICTED

The heads of most of the delegations are now well satisfied at the speed with which the United Nations conference has settled down to work, and are venturing to predict that it will be a success. They believe that the machinery of security which will emerge will improve on the Dumbarton Oaks proposals while keeping the main plan. The leadership and responsibilities of the great Powers will certainly be confirmed, but the great Powers will acknowledge more restraints on their own conduct; a clearer and larger place will probably be found for the middle Powers; and more opportunities for recommendations will probably be given to the General Assembly, where the small Powers predominate.

Many arguments lie ahead, and there is much tedious work to be done in sifting the mass of amendments that have been sent in, but there is a high common factor of agreement among the amendments. Therefore those who are beginning to look ahead are basing themselves not simply on hope but on evidence. Caution comes when those with experience of large international conferences remind themselves how often time has been lost and opportunities have been thrown away by quarrels over unessentials, inflated to points of principle and prestige. So far at any rate—it is a healthy sign—the delegations at San Francisco have been ready to put disputes quickly to the vote and have got them over.

The last amendments were due to be tabled by to-night. This morning 12 committees, which will work under four main directive commissions, settled down in their rooms to begin the task of examining the amendments, giving judgment on them, and preparing their own separate parts of the Charter before passing them on to the commissions.

EXISTING TREATIES

Two meetings were held last night which will certainly have great influence in shaping the Charter. In one of them the four sponsoring Powers met to examine their own individual amendments in a desire to find a common programme, particularly to find how existing treaties and regional arrangements can be fitted into the rules of the new organization, and to decide whether to modify their right of veto on deliberations by the Security Council. Many delegations, while acknowledging a great Power's right of veto on the use of physical force by the organization, have strongly maintained that no Power should have the right to prevent the council from passing an opinion on a dispute or from taking all measures short of military or economic sanctions. In other words, if the organization had to meet its severest test, which would come from a difference among the great Powers, its record should be clear before all the States.

At the other meeting France joined the four sponsoring Powers in a review of the proposals on trusteeship for the existing League mandates, colonial territories taken from enemies in this war, and other territories which any colonial Power may voluntarily decide to put under the proposed trustee commission. The chief difference of opinion so far lies in the extent to which the trustee commission should have power of inspection of territories under a trustee. Britain, with her long experience of colonial trusteeship, puts less weight than some others on the value of international inspection and would put first responsibility on the administering Power, requiring that Power to furnish regular reports on how it was promoting native welfare in accordance with agreed principles. This view was supported by Dr. Evatt, Australian Minister for External Affairs, yesterday at a Press conference. The Australian draft proposal on trusteeship does not mention inspection, but simply the duty to make regular reports. It then goes on farther than either the British or the American proposals in suggesting that territories could be put under trusteeship not only voluntarily but by the General Assembly after consultations among the Powers which administer dependent territories. The committee, under New Zealand chairmanship, which will study the whole problem of trusteeship will probably have one of the most delicate tasks of the whole conference.

ALLIED LANDING ON RHODES

ENEMY GUN POSITIONS DESTROYED

The official report from allied headquarters, Mediterranean, yesterday stated:—

It is reported from the Dodecanese that on Tuesday night raiding forces were landed on Rhodes and the smaller island of Alimnia to the westward. The operation was supported by the British destroyers Kimberley and Catterick and the Greek destroyer Creté. The operation was entirely successful.

At Rhodes three enemy gun positions were liquidated, while a fourth was bombarded by the Catterick for half an hour. All ammunition, vehicles, stores, huts, and tents were destroyed. At Alimnia one small enemy vessel was destroyed; jetties and stores were set on fire and telephone wires were cut. In these two operations we made more than 40 prisoners of war, while the enemy suffered at least another 30 killed.

It is reported from the northern Adriatic that many enemy craft from Pola and Trieste are surrendering at Ancona whither they were escorted by British light coastal forces.

GREEK RAIDING FORCE

CAIRO, May 4.—The blow against the German garrisons in the Dodecanese was struck by Greek raiding forces under Greek and British officers, it was announced here to-day. At times the fighting was exceedingly fierce. The Germans were attacked in the tents in which they were sleeping.—*Reuter.*

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Germans cheer as Prince honours Hamburg's dead

FROM ROGER BOYES IN HAMBURG



THE Prince of Wales plunged into the sensitive German debate over how to celebrate the end of the war yesterday with a loudly applauded open-air speech that underlined the horror of the Allied bombing raids on Hamburg.

"What was inflicted on Hamburg was the horror of the world war which released destruction on a scale the world had never seen before," Prince Charles told a crowd of some 20,000 crammed into the square in front of the City Hall where, 50 years ago, Hamburg formally surrendered to British troops.

The anniversary, he stressed in a speech largely delivered in German, was an occasion "to mourn the dead on both sides". The Germans have been ferociously debating whether the end of the war should be remembered as a liberation from Nazi rule, or a specifically German tragedy that led to the expulsion of millions of Germans from their homes in Eastern Europe, and the almost 50-year division of the country.

The Prince did not take sides but he made a point of acknowledging the German right to mourn their dead. After laying a wreath at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery, where row upon row of chalk-white crosses mark the graves of servicemen from the Welsh and Scots Guards, the Gordon Highlanders and the Pioneer Corps, as well as airmen from the British, Canadian and Australian air forces, the Prince moved on to an area where German victims of the bombing raids were buried.

These are mass graves, small mounds marked by signs showing each afflicted district of Hamburg. The Prince and his party, including Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, and Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, having paid tribute to the bombing victims, studiously avoided the thousands of graves of German soldiers.

There was no escape though from raw German sensitivities. As the Prince arrived at the cemetery, a 56-year-old Hamburg poet Helmut Sandvosser held up a placard denouncing the British monument to Sir Arthur Harris in the Strand in London. "The Prince is a fair and decent man but his grandmother honoured this butcher who ordered the killing of 48,000 of our people in Hamburg," he said. As a child, he saw "nuns scattering for cover during a British air raid with no hole to hide in, blown to smithereens on the street".

Other Hamburg citizens in the crowd criticised the protester but a few expressed agreement. "He's basically correct but he shouldn't forget the great job that the British did for us after the war," said one middle-aged man.On the podium in front of the City Hall, Prince Charles was preceded by 82-year-old Hellmut Kalbitzer, who was sent to a concentration camp for his socialist opposition to Hitler and the Nazis. Herr Kalbitzer made clear that he had no time for those German politicians and historians who equated German suffering during and after the war with the atrocities committed by the Nazis.

"Historians and their publicists are trying to suggest that Germany's post-war suffering and the division into occupation zones is the great German tragedy. They are confusing the causes of war with its effects, which does nothing more or less than provide right-wing ideological fodder for the skinheads."

Dr Henning Voscherau, a survivor of the camps and mayor of Hamburg, made plain that the German surrender should be regarded unambiguously, as a form of liberation. Herr Kalbitzer recalled standing in the same main square on May 5 surrounded by former slave labourers from different countries, each singing his own national anthem and waving improvised flags.

"I was very lonely — a German among celebrating victors. I wanted to celebrate too, but as a German I could not forget that we Germans would have to clean away the rubble left by the Nazis."

All speakers praised the postwar British administration of the city. Prince Charles referred to the setting up of a new democratic press and radio network by the British occupying authorities in Hamburg, but stressed that it was the Germans themselves who had made proper use of their new freedom.

"While armies can remove dictators, they cannot impose freedom. That has to come from within, from the people themselves." At this point thousands of Hamburgers started to clap, cheer and wave paper Union Jacks.



The Prince and the Mayor lay wreaths

Matthew Parris, page 2
Diary, page 20
Letters, page 21
Photograph, page 24
Books, pages 38, 39



MIKE POWELL

Norman Kirby, who was on Montgomery's security staff from D-Day to VE-Day, at home in Wembley, northwest London, yesterday

Monty's men recall moment of surrender

BY JOHN YOUNG

ON THIS day 50 years ago General Hans Kinzel and Grand Admiral Hans von Friedeburg surrendered to Field Marshal Montgomery on Lüneburg Heath, south of Hamburg. The previous day they had arrived unannounced at Montgomery's headquarters as emissaries of Grand Admiral Karl Dönitz, Hitler's successor as Chancellor, who had hoped to be able to hand over all his forces in northern Europe to the British rather than to the Russians.

Montgomery sent them back to Dönitz in Flensburg with the message that he could accept the surrender only of those troops facing his own 21st Army Group. Otherwise, he said: "I shall go on fighting and I will be delighted to do so. All your soldiers will be killed."

Among those who witnessed the final events were Norman Kirby and Anthony Posnansky, British Army sergeants who spoke German and were on the security staff at Montgomery's tactical headquarters. Mr Kirby, as he relates in *1100 Miles with Monty* (recently reissued by Alan Sutton Publishing: £9.99) was with the field marshal all the way from the Normandy landings to the plains of north Germany.

By the time Kinzel and von Friedeburg returned on the evening of May 4, Montgomery was in a better mood, Mr Kirby recalls. "At approximately 4pm the chief himself came out of his caravan and, crossing over to the marquee ... seated himself at the table to get the feel of it. He looked all around him ... beaming with obvious satisfaction."

The Germans paraded under the Union Jack and strode across the heather to the marquee, surrounded by some 40 radio and newspaper correspondents.

A minute or two later Montgomery, in battledress and beret, entered the tent, smiled at the assembled press and turned to face the Germans, who saluted smartly and waited until he was seated before sitting down themselves. In clear, crisp tones he read out the surrender terms. "The Germans," according to Mr Kirby, "sat with mask-like faces as they listened to the words which sealed the fate of their land, sea and air forces in Holland and northwest Germany, including all islands, and Denmark. After each of the Germans had signed in turn, Field Marshal Montgomery said: 'Now I will sign on behalf of the Supreme Commander, General Eisenhower'." The tent flaps were lowered and Monty was alone with his former enemies.

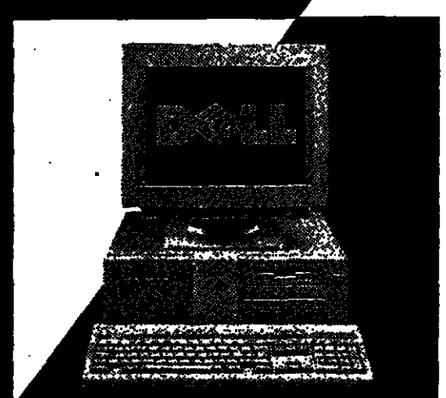


Sergeant Kirby with Montgomery in the final stages of the war

Mr Posnansky had been out of camp but was summoned back in case he was needed. "I think I spoke better German than anyone else, though it was not perfect by any means. I was quicker than anyone else and I grabbed the pen which Monty used and the blotting paper which, oddly enough, bears the wrong date, May 5 instead of May 4. I still have both," he said yesterday.

The next day he was ordered to accompany Major Friedl, Kinzel's aide, to Flensburg to find if Colonel General Alfred Jodl, German Chief of Staff, had any particular requests. "Jodl saluted me, a sergeant, with his field marshal's baton and instinctively we shook hands. Later when I told some Germans I was Jewish, they couldn't believe that Jews could serve in the British Army." Jodl was executed for war crimes but pardoned posthumously.

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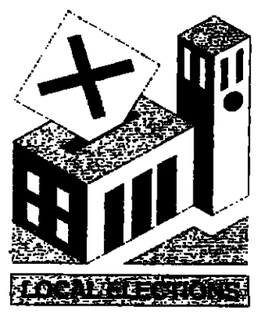
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Labour and Lib Dems decry landslide forecast

By James Landale
Political Reporter



LABOUR and the Liberal Democrats were striving yesterday to play down expectations of big gains in today's local elections as all the parties fired the final shots of their campaigns.

Officials from both parties claimed that the Tories were over-exaggerating their poor prospects so that they can claim to have done less badly than expected. Some polls have predicted that the Tories will lose up to 2,000 seats today, although 1,000 is a more likely figure.

According to a leaked briefing paper, Labour considers its support to be weak in the areas where the elections are being held. The elections exclude Scotland and London, and cover only a third of seats in large cities. Almost 8,000 of the 12,000 seats being contested are in small towns or rural areas, which traditionally are Tory or Liberal Democrat supporting. "This is Labour's least fertile territory," the briefing says.

At the last round of pre-election press conferences yesterday, Frank Dobson, the Shadow Environment Secretary, would go no further than saying that Labour will end up with more councils and councillors than before. He emphasised that Labour was starting from a high base, after winning record local government support in previous elections, and had never won more than 490 seats in a local election.

"Further record gains of this magnitude on top of our present record standing would be remarkable," he said. "Labour cannot expect to match our standing in the national opinion polls, which include Scotland and London where there are no elections and the metropolitan areas where only some 800 seats are up for election this time."

He said that voters would register their "rejection of this enfeebled, incompetent and dishonest Government and support local Labour candidates".

Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, said that his party, which holds 4,593 seats, could win enough to reach 5,000 but it was nonsense to say that it would end up with more councillors than the Tories, who have 7,473 seats. "It is simply not possible," he said. However, the Liberal Democrats do predict that they will win control of more councils than the Tories.

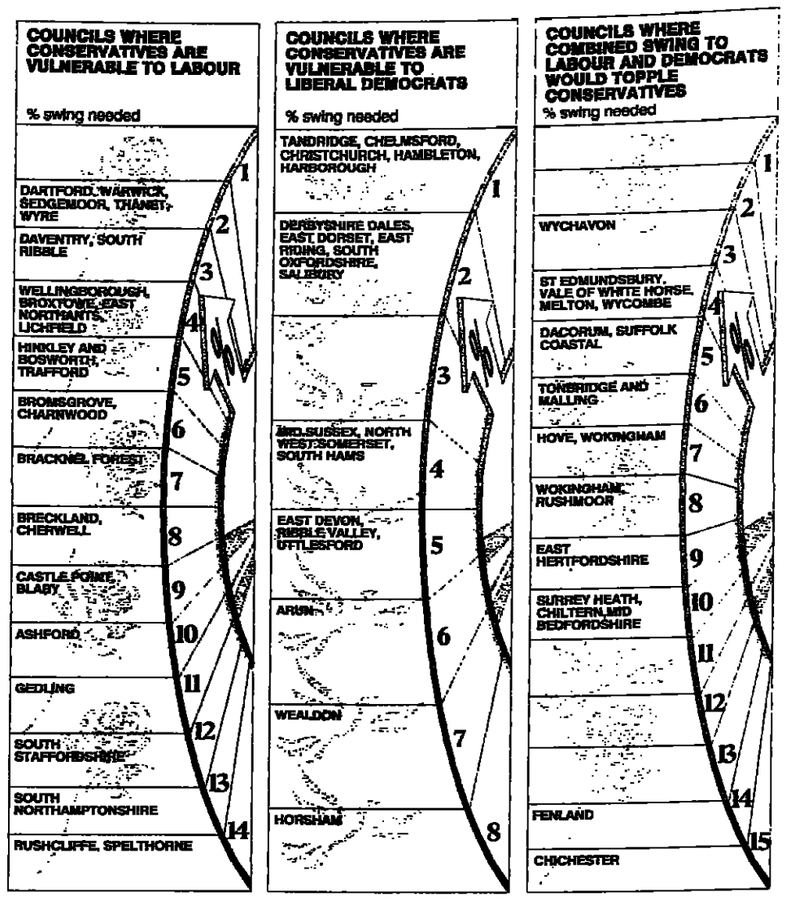
Mr Ashdown also predicted widespread voter cynicism and gave warning of a "crisis" as people became disillusioned with the political process. "The prevailing mood out there is yes, of course, anger with the Tories, but there is a very strong mood of 'a plague on all your houses'," he said. "My hunch from knocking on doors is that . . . this election is going to be the withdrawal from the ballot box."

Even if the Tories lose no more than 1,000 seats, the drubbing could still put Jeremy Hanley's position as chairman of the Tory party in doubt. Many in the party have criticised him for running a shaky campaign marked by gaffes and persistent negative attacks on Labour's local government record.

Mr Hanley said yesterday that he was perfectly happy to be judged by his leadership of the campaign. "There's a lot more, of course, to being party chairman than just one campaign, but I am perfectly happy to be judged on the way I have fought this campaign and brought the record of Conservative councils to the public's attention."

Mr Hanley rejected Labour and Liberal Democrat accusations that the Government had been reduced to shambles, not least over the climbdown over its policy to tax mortgage protection insurance.

Graham Mather, page 20
Leading article, page 21



Where the swing in support will count

By Ian Murray
Community Correspondent

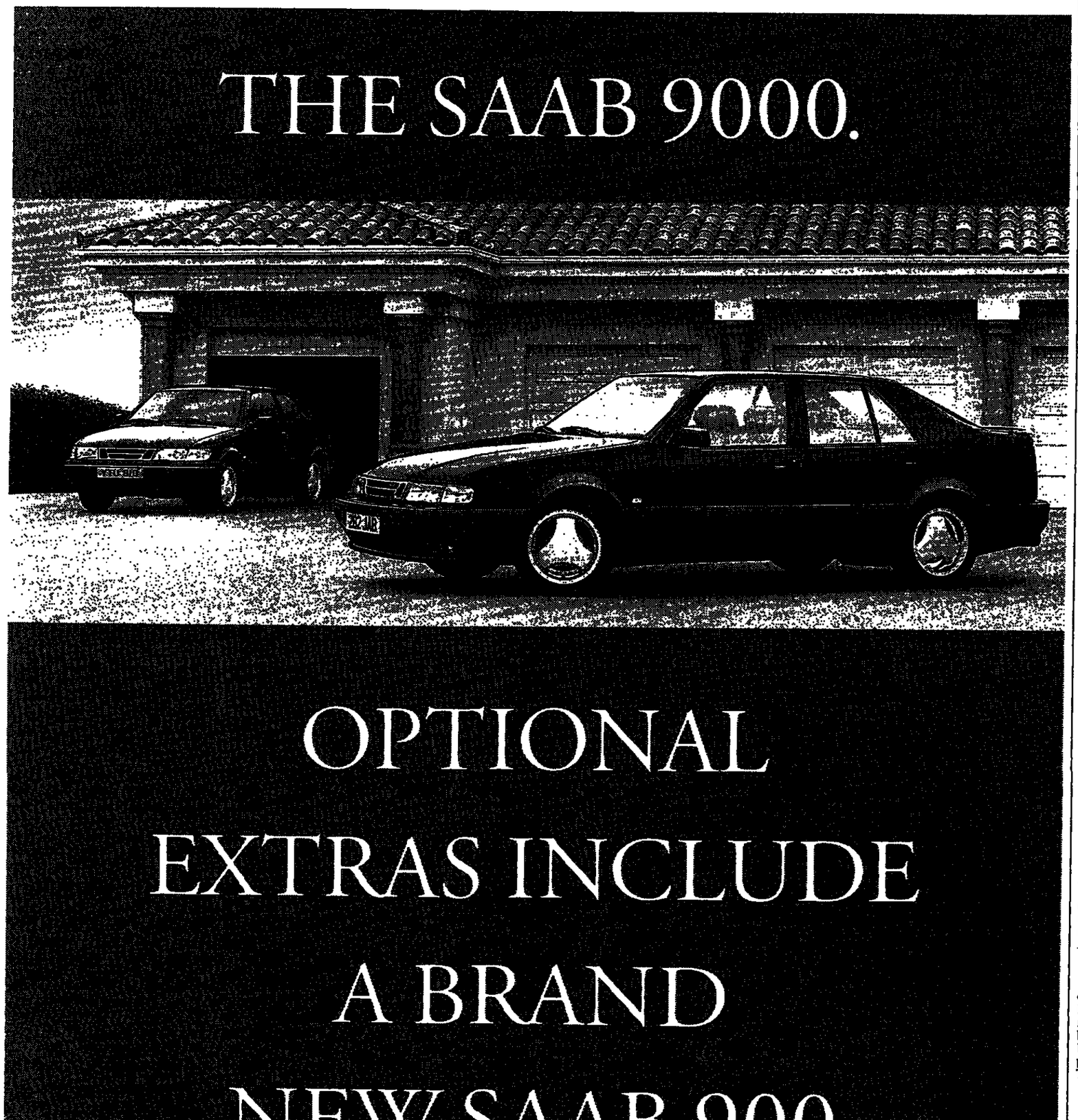
THE Tories face a near wipeout in today's local elections, with the latest opinion polls showing they will lose all but a few of the 65 authorities they control outright in England.

There has been a 12 per cent swing to Labour and a 2 per cent swing to the Liberal Democrats since 1991 when these same seats were contested. On that showing the Tories will do well to hang on to more than a dozen councils.

The Tories, who failed to win control anywhere in Scotland last month, are also unlikely to take any of the 22 new unitary authorities in Wales or the 14 in England.

The Liberal Democrats are poised to capture the Isle of Wight, which this month becomes the first of the unitary authorities to go into service.

The Tories best hope is that middle-class support for "new Labour" will split the anti-government protest vote, which tends to go to the Liberal Democrats between general elections.



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Defeated Tories will face severe damage to morale

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

Local elections are interpreted almost entirely in terms of their national implications — for the standing of the Government and for the future of the Prime Minister. These issues will obviously dominate the headlines over the next few days. But the most lasting impact of today's polls could, appropriately, be local rather than national — on control of town halls and on the morale, and membership, of constituency parties.

The map of local government in England and Wales will change substantially. Everywhere outside London will be voting since this is the one year in the four-year cycle when all seats are up in mainly rural councils, as well as a third of the seats on more urban local authorities. In addition, 14 of the new shadow unitary councils are being elected. After big loses over the past few years, the Tories only control one of the 36 metropolitan districts (Trafford) and, outright, 68 of the 274 non-mets, the heartlands of Tory England.

As David Cowling, ITN's political analyst, has pointed out, the potential for Tory loses are much greater this year than in 1994. Because of the pattern of voting, three-quarters of the Tory councillors defending seats today are from authorities with all-out elections, who have, *so far*, escaped the party's post-1992 slump. The party suffered big losses, 827 seats and control of 40 councils, when these seats were last contested in 1991. But that now looks almost a high point. Even a repetition of last year's metropolitan distict results in the non-mets would result in huge loses. The Tories could lose control of nine councils if they lose just one seat on these authorities, and a further 12 with the loss of two or three seats.

It is a nonsense to extrapolate the precise results to a general election which could still be two years away. In that respect, it does not matter whether the Tories lose 1,000, 1,500 or 2,000 seats. It is a good bet that several parliamentary seats where no Tory councillors are elected today will re-elect their Tory MP. But few MPs will be sure of that. There is nothing more certain to induce panic in an MP than the election of Opposition councillors.

More significant, however, is that the defeated Tory councillors will be among the most prominent people in their local parties. They are likely to blame disarray in national government rather than the record of their local councils. Defeated and disillusioned councillors may consequently reduce their level of activity in their local parties. This sense of failure may in turn discourage newcomers from joining, reinforcing the decay of the Tory organisation at a local level.

Low morale among party activists is one of the most serious problems facing the Tories. By contrast, widespread gains will give a further boost to Labour and the Liberal Democrats locally. This outcome will underline how the Liberal Democrats have a continued role locally despite the Blair phenomenon nationally.

The results will mean that most of local government, at a district as well as a county level, will be under the sole or shared control of the Opposition parties. Although the days of confrontation between central and local government are over — and John Gummer has no wish to revive them — there is bound to be pressure to increase public spending. On that, at least, the Tory campaign has been right. But these issues should be a matter for local residents. There is no reason whey the spending/tax mix should be the same everywhere. The perverse result of years of Whitehall attempts to shackle local councils has been to undermine the Tories' local base and to create a new opposition in town halls throughout the country. The Tories will increasingly look a rump holding onto office, if not power, at Westminster.

Peter Riddell

National scores to be settled locally

By Kate Alderson

THE humiliating prospect of losing control of Trafford Council, the last Conservative metropolitan council outside London, is almost too much for Councillor Patrick Myers to contemplate.

"Thursday could prove to be one of the most embarrassing days for us," he said, while canvassing in Halebarns, a wealthy village to the far south of the Manchester borough. "This ward, this whole area, should be solidly Tory but a lot of our life-long supporters are deserting us."

Trafford Council has been convincingly Conservative for 19 of the past 21 years and today it has a slender Tory majority of seven.

Canvass returns from the Conservative camp show an 8-10 per cent swing against them; a swing of 6 per cent will end Conservative control, one of 13 per cent would turn it over to Labour.

Another Hale councillor, Marilyn Lucas, is also enthusiastically knocking on doors. Winston Churchill was one of the borough's MPs, she said. "Yes! Thank you very much Mr Churchill." The unpopularity of the MP after last week's announcement that he was to receive £12.5 million of lottery money for his grandfather's papers had done little to help the Conservative cause, she said.

"People are telling us that they will vote us out, destroy the flagship, to teach the Government a lesson," she said. "It appears that our head must be on the block despite all of our achievements."

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Labour to set out its policies on health, crime, education and the economy

Blair promises to scrap NHS market

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR promised yesterday that a Labour government would abolish GP fundholding and the NHS internal market and reorganise local education authorities.

The Labour leader showed that he intended to move on sharply from internal reforms within the party with a new policy programme designed for "the mainstream majority in Britain".

He said that he had asked every member of the Shadow Cabinet to review their programme in the light of Labour's new statement of aims and values, agreed last weekend. "We are now free to think the unthinkable, to embrace, new and exciting ideas, to see the pace of change not as a threat from which we shrink but as an opportunity to shape our nation's future."

Six policy papers are expected to be published over the next three months on the economy, health, crime, education, the information superhighway and regional government.

After the success in changing Clause Four, Labour could now move on to "construct a new policy agenda for Britain that moves beyond some of the old policy dividing lines between Left and Right", Mr Blair said.

Next month Margaret Beckett, the Shadow Health Secretary, will publish a document detailing Labour's plans to scrap GP fundholding, which the party claims has led to a two-tier system in the NHS. She is expected to propose that all GPs be given a greater say in health provision by working more closely with district health authorities. But Labour will ditch the system of separate budgets for GPs, one of the key elements of the NHS reforms.

Mr Blair said that Labour would keep NHS trusts but would make their boards more accountable. Mrs Beckett is expected to propose having their members chosen by election.

Mr Blair said: "We will replace the two-tier system of GP fundholding with a new partnership offering excellence for all, and to bring democracy to hospital Trusts. We will apply the traditional values of the NHS to the modern challenges of high patient expectations, technological change and an ageing population."

David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary will publish a paper next month that will include Labour's proposals for grant-maintained schools. The central funding agency for GM schools will be abolished, but Labour is expected to keep them within "a new democratic framework".

Mr Blair also signalled that Labour will ensure that local education authorities are made more accountable for services they provide. "We will shake up LEAs," he said. "Instead of controlling schools as in the past, they should be judged by their success in raising standards. We will offer greater say to parents in planning and delivery of schooling." Labour's approach was about combining support for schools "with pressure on them to achieve".

Over the next few weeks Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, will make three main speeches setting out Labour's economic policy. These will flesh out Labour's plans to improve macro-economic stability, boosting investment in people, infrastructure and industry, and reforming the welfare state to help people into work.

Next month Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, will publish a paper on local-police partnership to fight crime. Mr Blair said: "We will show how community partnership can reclaim the streets for people who live there. We will put the law on the side of the ordinary person rather than lawyers and propose new ways of settling disputes before they get to court."



Superstore defends cut-price book offer

BY DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE supermarket chain Asda defended its right to break the price-fixing Net Book Agreement when it gave evidence to a Commons inquiry yesterday.

Denise Jagger, Asda company secretary and corporate counsel, told the National Heritage Select Committee: "The consumer wants cheaper books and we're interested in the consumer."

The inquiry into the NBA coincided with Asda's decision to put John Le Carré's latest novel, *Our Game*, on sale at half price this week. The book is the first popular novel to be published outside the NBA, used by major publishers since the beginning of the century.

Several MPs expressed fears that small booksellers could be forced out of business. Michael Fabricant (C, Mid-Staffordshire) said that many were already crippled by high rents and would be unable to negotiate better discounts without taking larger orders.

Ms Jagger, however, insisted that Asda was selling to customers who would not buy from specialist bookshops and was therefore making books accessible to a wider public. The damage to authors, and booksellers has been "grossly overstated".

Minister seeks end to Tunnel dispute

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BRIAN Mawhinney demanded tougher action last night to break the deadlock between Britain and France over Channel Tunnel safety inspection.

British safety experts have criticised the continued failure of French authorities to allow British safety inspectors equal access to the French half of the tunnel. Only a system of "double badging" — in which inspectors from each country have full inspection rights — would allow the best quality of inspection, they say.

The Transport Secretary told MPs that he had ordered a detailed report from British officials on progress towards common inspection rights. He pledged to take up the issue personally if this month's meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission, which supervises the tunnel, failed to make adequate progress.

Dr Mawhinney was also questioned closely by members of the Commons Transport Select Committee on his admission last month that dozens of roll-on, roll-off ferries will not meet new safety standards for up to 12 years. The Transport Secretary confirmed that Britain might introduce extra ferry safety standards independently. "There may be scope for developing regional standards within IMO," he said.

Major promotes reformed rebel

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JAMES CRAN, a ringleader of the Maastricht Treaty rebellion, was promoted onto the first rung of the ministerial ladder yesterday in a move seen as John Major's latest gesture to the Right.

Mr Cran, 51-year-old MP for Beverley, was named as parliamentary private secretary to Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Northern Ireland Secretary. He succeeds Richard Spring, MP for Bury St Edmunds, who resigned last month after disclosures about his private life.

The appointment follows the Prime Minister's surprise decision to readmit unconditionally to the fold the nine whipless rebels and the choice of Michael Spicer, who was a leading Maastricht rebel, as the intermediary in talks on their return. The appointment of Mr Cran, a reformed character since his Maastricht rebellion, is a sign that Mr Major is trying to shore up his support on the Right.

Although his new post is unpaid, Mr Cran will be regarded as a member of the payroll vote and will lose his job if he repeats his Maastricht defiance. He voted against the treaty 30 times and abstained 30 times.

Donald Mackay, QC, was appointed Solicitor General for Scotland yesterday in succession to Thomas Dawson, QC, who has been made a Senator of the College of Justice in Scotland.

IN PARLIAMENT

YESTERDAY in the Commons: from 10am, debates were held on the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, the Lancashire structure plan, firearms, the Broadmoor Farm business park and Burtonwood air base. In the afternoon, questions to Foreign Office ministers were followed by debates on exports, industry and inward investment. In the Lords: debates on the Sale of Goods (Amendment) Bill and Financial Services (Amendment) Bill. TODAY in the Commons: questions to agriculture ministers and the Prime Minister will be followed by a debate on the RAF. In the Lords: debates on the Health Authorities Bill, third reading, the Commonwealth Development Corporation Bill and the Crown Agents Bill.

THE TIMES

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Details of the offer appeared in Weekend last Saturday with an application form. Further details will appear on Saturday.

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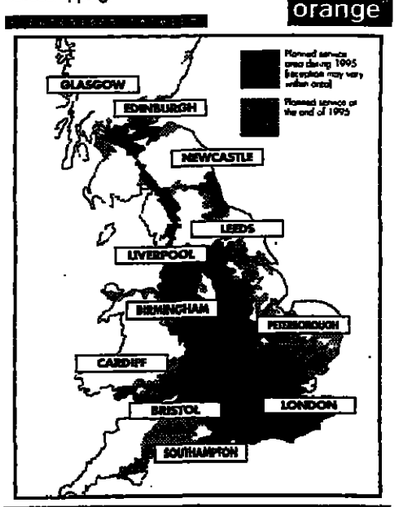
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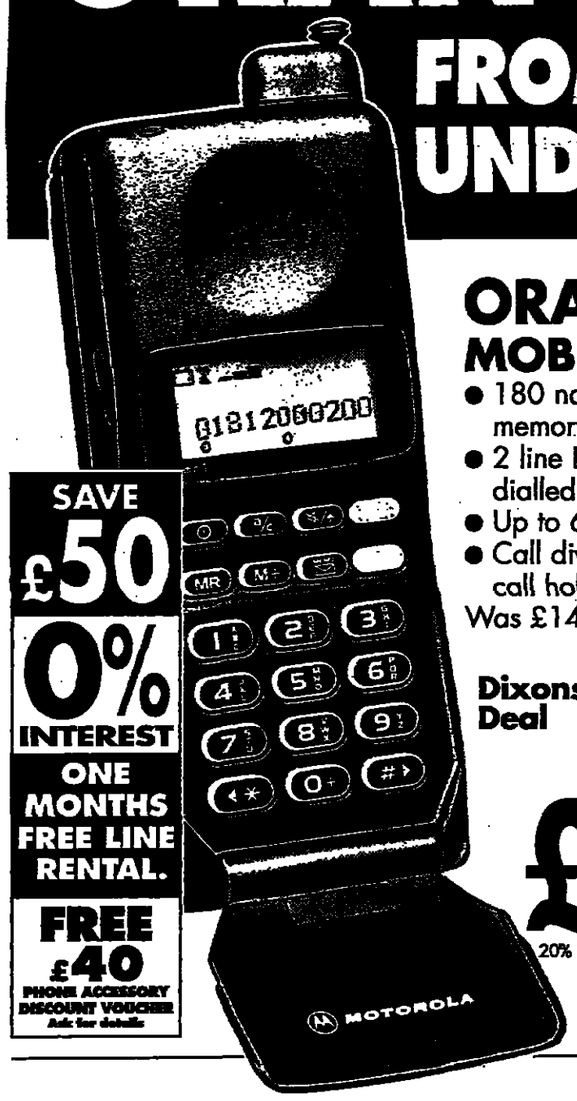
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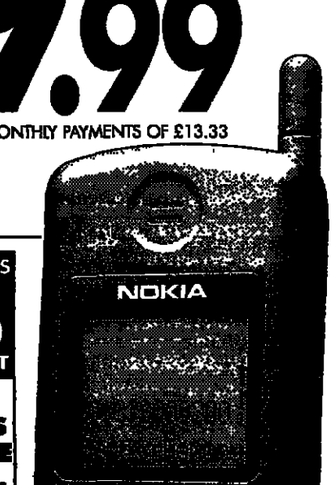
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'At the moment, monetary union is for intellectuals — we must see it work on the ground'

Santer admits EU error on currency

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

A CHARM offensive to "sell" the idea of a single currency to Europe's sceptical voters is being planned by Jacques Santer, the European Commission's new President. However, in an interview with *The Times* on the eve of his visit to London today, Mr Santer acknowledged that public support for monetary union does not yet exist because the EU's politicians have misjudged the level of public support for European integration.

Before the European summit in Cannes in June, Mr Santer will present Union leaders with a marketing drive intended to turn monetary union into a popular cause during the final years of the century. Just as EU experts prepare plans for minting and printing ecu coins and banknotes, opinion polls in Britain and Germany have shown that a single currency is less popular than ever. "I must say that the public support is not yet sufficient to realise it." Mr Santer said of the plans for monetary union written into the Maastricht Treaty. "At the moment, monetary union is something for intellectuals or for those who study it in books. We have to go out and see that it works on the ground." Even in Luxembourg, which has been in a monetary union with Belgium for 70 years, Mr Santer noticed that an experiment in pricing everything in the shops in ecus was a "disaster".

The former Prime Minister of Luxembourg, who took over the European Commission last January from Jacques Delors, delivers a speech at the Guildhall tonight as part of his quiet efforts to keep Britain alongside the rest of the EU.

M Delors's professorial intensity and goading of Britain has given way to Mr Santer's dislike of being tactlessly controversial. While M Delors played the fierce school prefect, Mr Santer likes to be the genial host.

Suddenly catapulted into the Commission presidency when John Major vetoed Jean-Luc Dehaene, Belgium's Prime Minister, for the job last summer, Mr Santer is a consensus manager and plainly not the "philosopher king" Mr Major and Mr Hurd wanted to avoid. He walks through the agenda for next year's conference to revisit the Maastricht Treaty with the care of a man treading in a minefield. Wherever Mr Santer is standing, you can be sure it is middle ground.

Middle ground opinion in Europe's political classes still favours unification, the single currency and moves towards political union in 1996, but politicians like Mr Santer now approach these issues with a wariness which was nowhere to be seen when the Maastricht Treaty was written in 1991. A "rift" had opened between politicians and public, Mr Santer acknowledged. "We thought that the population, the citizens, were much closer to European unification than they are," he said.

As Europe prepares to mark VE-Day, the drive to unite Europe has slackened as memories of war have faded. "We have to be aware that the first programme of the European Union was precisely a programme to establish a durable peace in Europe. But the younger generations have no more links with the Second World War. They see what is going on in former Yugoslavia, Rwanda and elsewhere. They see that there's organised crime and that they don't have safety in their own families." To be credible, he said, the Union must make an impact on unemployment, and crime but it should do only what the nation states cannot handle. With a grin and a dig at M Delors, Mr Santer added that the EU should not become something Napoleonic, a centralised state "like the French system". "I'm a federalist in this way: for me federalism is the opponent of centralisation. We want to put into the Union's hands only that which would be better done at the European level and leave all the other problems to the national or regional level where they could be better done."

He said this meant that the states will have to discuss using more majority voting to settle joint foreign policies. But even this idea, unpopular in Britain, is hedged about with qualifications designed not to frighten Conservative MPs.

Mr Santer steered away from commenting on Westminster politics. He said he wanted to see an "objective" debate about Europe in Britain and will tell tonight's audience that Britain underrates the value of the trade and investment delivered by EU membership.

With a chuckle, he added, that other EU countries could learn from British social policies — although he still hoped that Britain will one day join the Social Chapter. "I think we are not far away from joining our forces," Mr Santer said, hoping to close the gap which has opened between Britain and the continent by making Brussels less of a bogeyman. "We are not building up a full United States of Europe at the beginning of the 21st century. Our only ambition is to maintain durable peace and prosperity here in Europe."



Jacques Santer: the European Union must not become "something Napoleonic ... like the French system"

Italy deploys army to stop migrants

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

ITALY will deploy 1,000 troops along the coast of Apulia next week to try to halt the influx of illegal immigrants arriving nightly from Albania and Montenegro, officials said yesterday.

The sentries from the army's Pinerolo Brigade, based at Bari, are to guard more than 60 miles of shoreline stretching down to Santa Margherita di Leuca in the province of Salento, in the heel of the Italian boot. The authorities estimate that about 10,000 people, including Turkish Kurds, Egyptians, Pakistanis, Indians, Afghans and Chinese, as well as Albanians and refugees from the former Yugoslavia, have landed between Bari and Salento during the past six months.

The Government of Lamberto Dini has put aside 5,000 billion lire (€1.8 million) to pay for the army operation, which is also designed to help to curtail lucrative trafficking in arms and drugs across the Otranto Channel.

Many of the immigrants travel from the Albanian port of Vlore, where a fleet of about 50 motor launches equipped with powerful 200hp to 300hp engines is based, police sources say. Each boat is capable of packing between 20 and 25 people on board for the 48-mile journey which lasts only about 90 minutes. In bad weather accidents are frequent and about 40 people, many of them children, are believed to have drowned during the crossings.

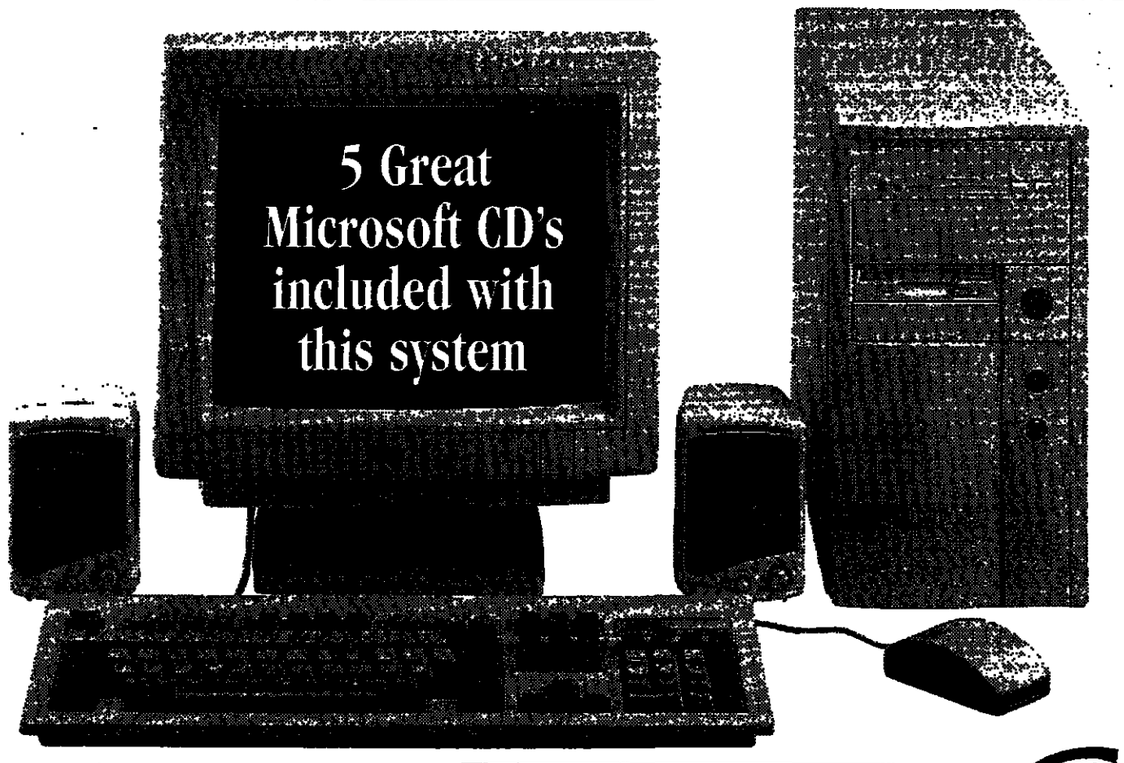
Criminal gangs from Lecce and Brindisi organise reception on the Italian side. The new arrivals from Albania, Bosnia and Macedonia are whisked away by bus or car to railway stations to travel elsewhere in Italy.

For the Chinese, Kurds and other Asians, Italy is usually a staging post from which they seek to enter Germany and France. Many immediately present themselves at police stations where they receive expulsion orders. Under Italian law, that allows them to remain in the country for 15 days and gives them time to map the next leg of their journey.

"The clandestine immigrants' voyages are managed by big Mafia holdings. Even the Chinese Mafia is involved." Procurator Caldo Motta, a magistrate spearheading the battle against organised crime in Apulia, said. "The traffic in arms and drugs is ever more intense. We suspect that heroin refineries are starting up in Albania. The army intervention will be a deterrent to curtail the flow of suspect vessels to the western Adriatic coast."

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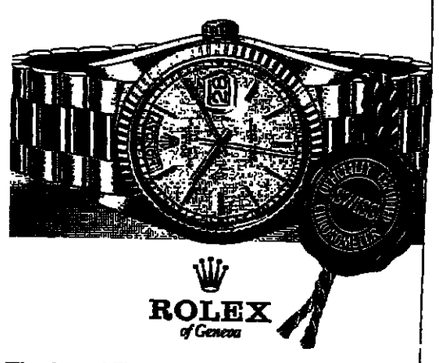
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US envoy denounces 'diabolical' rocket barrage as Croats and Krajina Serbs agree ceasefire

Innocents targeted in Zagreb attack

BY JOEL BRAND AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

THE American Ambassador to Croatia said the rebel Serb rocket barrage against Zagreb was timed for the lunch hour to kill as *many innocent* people as possible.

Standing in the cellar of Zagreb children's hospital, where 200 young patients were huddled together shortly after the building took three rocket hits, Peter Galbraith denounced the second attack in two days as diabolical. One person died and 43 were injured yesterday.

"This is a clear violation of the most basic elements of human decency," he said during a visit accompanied by Mate Granic, the Croatian Foreign Minister.

"One should understand what has gone on — cluster bombs [on the rockets] sent into the centre of a European capital are intended for one purpose and that is to kill lots of people," Mr Galbraith said.

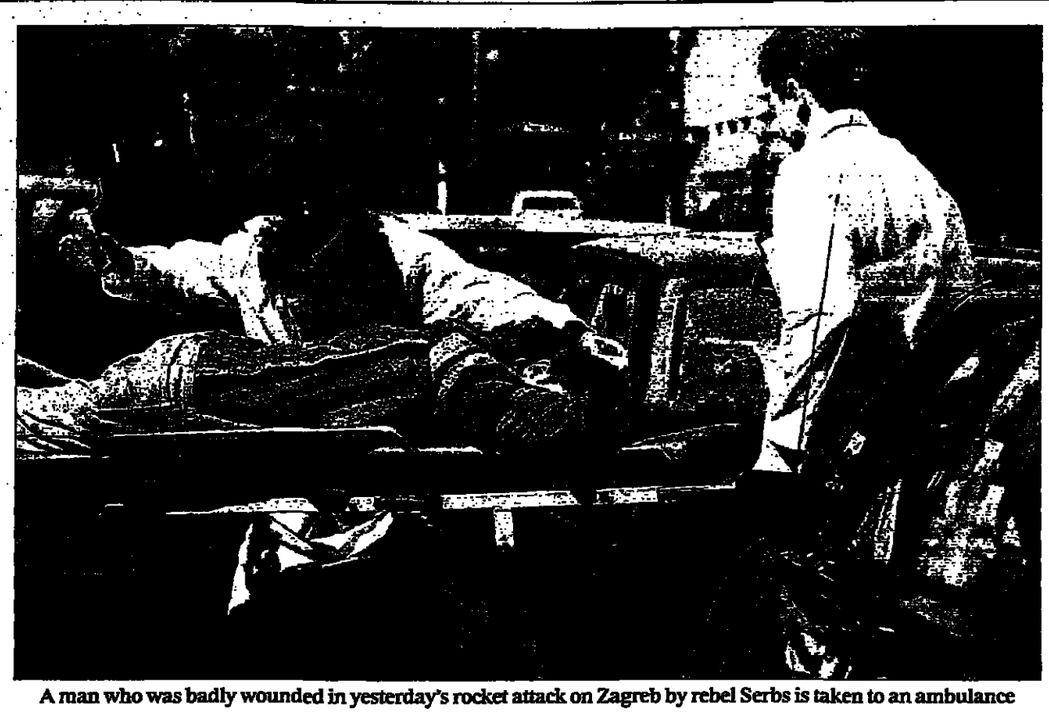
"Furthermore, the timing of the attacks, not at night but right in the middle of the day, during the lunch hour, is further evidence that the sole single purpose was to kill as many people as possible. It's an utter outrage," the ambassador added, his voice quivering with anger.

Mr Granic described the rocket bombardments as a war crime and said he would report it to Judge Richard Goldstone, head of the United Nations tribunal on war crimes in former Yugoslavia. "A particular crime is to target hospitals, schools and theatres, which has happened in the past two days," he said.

The strikes were in apparent retaliation against a two-day government blitz in which it seized a key slice of motorway and regained control of a region of the rebels' self-declared "state". That offensive came to a successful end on Tuesday. Some 600 Croatian Serb soldiers, surrounded in the fighting, have surrendered and will be handing over their weapons in the next four days. About 5,000 Serbs who fled the area captured by the government troops are now refugees in northern Bosnia, relief workers said. They dismissed Serb assertions that the refugees were victims of the kind of "ethnic cleansing" campaign the Serbs have waged against Muslims and Croats.

"What we saw happen was basically a military operation with some shelling of civilian areas," said Kris Janowski, a spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. "This caused a wake of refugees and displaced people, but we have no evidence of 'ethnic cleansing'." Mr Janowski and an official from the International Committee of the Red Cross condemned the Croatians for shelling Serb civilian areas and a hospital. "We shall inform Judge Goldstone ... Croatia will find a way to protect itself from these crimes." Mr Granic accused Milan Martic, the ultra-nationalist president of the self-declared Serb Krajina republic in Croatia, and his military commander General Milan Celeketic, of ordering the rocket attacks. "They will have to answer to the Croatian public and the international community," he said. The UN said last night that Croatia and the rebel Serbs had agreed to an immediate ceasefire. "I have words of honour from both sides to implement this agreement," Yasushi Akashi, the UN special envoy in the Balkans, said. UN sources said the verbal agreement would be signed shortly.

Leading article and Letters, page 21



A man who was badly wounded in yesterday's rocket attack on Zagreb by rebel Serbs is taken to an ambulance

Britain to pull out if war grows

London: British troops will not remain in the Balkans "at any cost" if fighting continues to escalate, Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, said yesterday.

The time had not yet arrived to withdraw forces working under the United Nations flag, but the deteriorating situation in the former Yugoslavia was "very worrying". Britain has about 3,500 troops in the area and plans have been drawn up to evacuate them in an emergency.

"The situation could easily deteriorate to make that inevitable," Mr Rifkind told BBC Radio 4's *Today* programme. "I hope it does not because I think the presence of the UN has still a viable impact in preventing the war spreading throughout the Balkans. We cannot expect British and other UN forces to be there irrespective of the dangers. We are not fighting in a war in which Britain has a direct interest. We do have an indirect interest ... of helping peace in the region, but not at any cost."

Croatia's UN force 'has to be white'

BY MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

UNCRO, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, is the proposed rump force of 8,750 men from the 14,825 men of Unprofor, the UN Protection Force now assigned to Croatia.

Unprofor, a unified force for all former Yugoslavia, was split at the insistence of President Tudjman, who had threatened to order its evacuation from Croatia because he said it was perpetuating the separation of his country's Serb-held enclaves.

Uncro came into being last month with a Security Council resolution giving it a six-point mandate: to implement the March 1994 ceasefire and monitor the deployment of troops and weapons; to help the operation of transport and energy networks; to help to implement all Security Council resolutions on freedom of movement, security and humanitarian activities; to monitor the crossing of weapons and men over the borders between Croatia and Bosnia and Croatia and Serbia; to help to deliver aid to Bosnia through Croatia; and to monitor the demilitarisation of the Prevlaka peninsula.

Controversy surrounds the new UN force, especially over the demand by President Tudjman that it should comprise only Europeans. His demand for the dismissal of non-white troops, including the Jordanians and Kenyans now in Croatia, has been opposed by the international community, and so far no troops from the units currently in Croatia have been withdrawn. Other non-Europeans include Argentinians, Nepalese and Indonesians. Britain has never had troops in Croatia, so will not be part of the new force.

The force will continue to have its headquarters in Zagreb, but its life may be short. The new round of fighting poses the same problems as for Unprofor in Bosnia-Herzegovina and contributor nations may pull out if the UN task becomes impossible.

Serb army 'showing surprising restraint'

FROM JOEL BRAND
IN SARAJEVO

DESPITE inflicting many civilian casualties in Zagreb, the Croatian Serbs have shown surprising restraint to this week's successful government offensive.

So far they have retaliated with only a small fraction of their capability, launching a small probing attack near the Adriatic coast yesterday, as well as two days of rocket strikes on the capital.

The offensive against the Serb-held region known by its UN designation "Sector West", easily succeeded in wresting away a key 20-mile slice of motorway and railway which the Croatian Government needs to reach the eastern part of the country. It also nibbled off a chunk of the rebel Serbs' self-proclaimed state and sent 5,000 residents fleeing. About 600 Serb troops, with their heavy weapons, surrendered.

"Effectively, Sector West has ceased to exist," a UN official said. "They've been very restrained. They haven't gone on the warpath. Even their retaliation against civilians hasn't been as bad as it could be." Most of the thousands of peacekeepers who worked in the area until Monday will be redeployed.

With about 240 main battle tanks to the Croatian Army's 170, and the ability to call upon the support of rebel Bosnian Serbs and probably the former Yugoslav Army, the separatists could punch back hard at government forces.

"They probably have the potential to cut Dalmatia in half," the UN official said, referring to the vulnerable coastal strip of Croatia. The Dalmatian coast, with its allure to European tourists, is the country's biggest money-maker. "I did think there would be something more," a UN military officer said.

However, President Milosevic of Serbia, courting the image of Balkan peace-maker, would be reluctant overtly to return his forces to Croatian battlefields. The rebel Serb leadership in Bosnia is loath to get involved in a fight in Croatia while equally pressing concerns remain at home. "They don't want to fight a two-front war," the official said. Senior UN sources say they believe the Bosnian Serbs are preparing for a big military campaign against increasingly combative government forces.

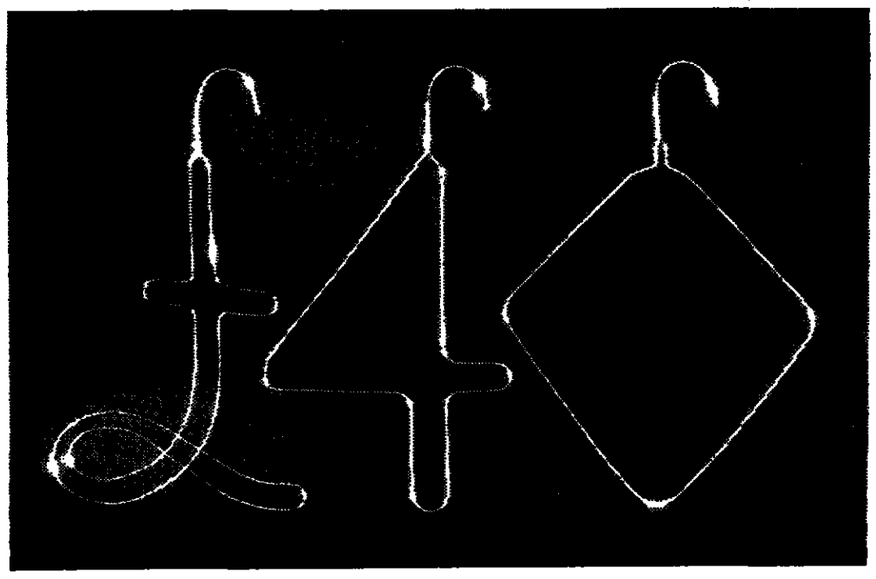
German post office blast kills worker

Frankfurt: A parcel bomb packed with screws exploded yesterday at a Frankfurt post office sorting centre, killing a woman worker and injuring 11 other people, two of them seriously.

The blast came as an unsuspecting 36-year-old postal sorter took the package from a roller wagon to place it on a conveyor belt. A 35-year-old colleague standing nearby died a few hours later from her injuries, and two other postal workers, men aged 24 and 43, were in hospital with serious wounds. Nine more workers were taken to hospital with slight injuries. Sixteen people were in the sorting office when the bomb went off at 7.50am in the Frankfurt number 2 parcels office. Little other damage was caused except to some packages.

"Screws were added to the device to increase the shrapnel effect," said Job Tilmann, a spokesman for the prosecutor's office. Police said the motive appeared to be "general crime", rather than political, but declined to say to whom the bomb was addressed. No warning of the blast was given to police. (*Reuter/AFP*)

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FBI hardliner promoted

Clinton hits back against militias

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE Clinton Administration, signalling that it will not be cowed by paramilitary extremists, is promoting a *bête noire* of America's anti-government militia movement to be the FBI's second-in-command.

Larry Potts, who is running the Oklahoma City bombing investigation, was in charge of two previous FBI operations which the militias considered proof of a government plot to repress US citizens.

One was the 1993 federal assault on the Branch Davidians' Waco compound which left more than 80 dead. Timothy McVeigh, the only man charged with the Oklahoma bombing, vowed retribution for that attack after visiting the site.

The second was the FBI's 1992 siege of the heavily armed Idaho mountain cabin of Randy Weaver, a white separatist, which ended in the fatal shooting of Weaver's wife and son. Mr Potts was disciplined for poor supervision of that operation.

A militia spokesman in Idaho said Mr Potts's promotion would confirm the "worst nightmares" of those who believed that the Government was conspiring against them. Larry Craig, Idaho's Republican senator, said the promotion was neither "appropriate" nor "prudent".

Janet Reno, the Attorney-General, cited the progress of the Oklahoma investigation as proof of Mr Potts's ability, but her announcement came on one of the most frustrating days for the investigators.

Eighteen hours after the dawn raid on a Missouri motel that captured two men suspected of being Mr McVeigh's co-conspirators, the FBI was forced to release the pair because they could not link them to the bombing.

One senior law enforcement official told *The Washington Post* there was "plenty to be suspicious of", but Gary Land and Robert Jacks passed lie detector tests and insisted it was mere coincidence that they had followed Mr McVeigh from the same town in Arizona to Oklahoma just before the bombing. The day after the bombing they had checked into a motel in the same Oklahoma town where Mr McVeigh was being held on unrelated speeding and firearms charges. "We didn't do it. We're clean. We just got questioned. That's it." Mr Jacks said.

A Michigan court meanwhile rejected a bail application from James Nichols, one of two brothers held on unrelated explosives charges. An FBI agent testified that Mr Nichols told a visitor to his Michigan farm that his brother, Terry, and Mr McVeigh were testing home-made bombs and that it was possible to build one large enough to destroy a federal building.

William Rees-Mogg, page 20



Hideo Nomo, the Japanese baseball star, making his first major league pitch for the Los Angeles Dodgers

Japan's top pitcher strikes gold in US

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

INTO the demoralized world of professional baseball, still recovering from a seven-month players' strike, has stepped the invigorating presence of Hideo Nomo.

He mesmerises opponents with an action worthy of a mime artist, can hurl a baseball at 90 miles an hour, and is the first Japanese-born player to appear in the American major leagues for more than 30 years.

On Tuesday night he made his debut for the Los Angeles Dodgers, striking out seven San Francisco 49ers in a performance watched by more than 100 members of the Japanese sporting press corps and tens of millions of television viewers on the other side of the Pacific. The game was broadcast live in Japan, starting at 4.30am.

Some Japanese reporters have been on the road with Nomo and the Dodgers ever since the reigning champions of the National Baseball League signed him in February for a performance-related contract package that will bring the player up to $2 million (£1.2 million).

Since then he has limbered up with the Dodgers at spring training, a normally idyllic baseball ritual for which the nation's teams converge on Florida for a series of pre-season friendlies. This year it was delayed by the strike, as was Nomo's long-awaited opening game.

When the moment arrived and the pitcher began his stretching exercises, police officers were called in to keep the crush of cameras at bay. In what appears to have been an attempt to assimilate himself to the American way, Nomo obliged photographers by turning and pulling down his shorts.

He won a reputation for aloofness as star pitcher for the Kintetsu Buffaloes and lost some fans in the process. He appears keen to ingratiate himself with senior Dodgers, however. Though possessed of little English, he greets Tommy Lasorda, the team's legendary coach, with the phrase "hey, dude".

Simpson 'trail of blood'

Los Angeles: A police chemist told a Los Angeles jury that the blood type found in drops leading from the murdered bodies of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman exists in only one in 200 people and O.J. Simpson is among them (Giles Whittel writes).

In hours of tedious evidence Gregory Matheson also said that Brown Simpson's blood type was found on socks in the bedroom of the former football star. The prosecution is to present further "trail of blood" evidence, including DNA analysis. Mr Simpson has denied murdering his former wife and her friend.

America executes two murderers

Potosi: A murderer was put to death by lethal injection in Missouri shortly after Pennsylvania carried out its first execution in 33 years, by the same method. Emmitt Foster, 42, was convicted of the murder of one of his softball teammates during a robbery. Keith Zettlemoyer, 39, was executed in Bellfonte, Pennsylvania, for killing a friend about to give evidence against him in a robbery trial. *(AFP)*

Banker to testify over Whitewater

Washington: Neil Ainley, an Arkansas banker accused over the illegal diversion of funds during President Clinton's gubernatorial campaign in 1990, pleaded guilty to reduced charges in exchange for testifying to the Whitewater inquiry (Tom Rhodes writes). As a witness before a Little Rock federal grand jury, he is expected to focus on the dealings of Bruce Lindsey, one of the President's close advisers.

New York's twin towers for sale

New York: The twin towers of New York's World Trade Centre, symbol of international commerce and more recently a target for terrorism, may soon be up for sale (Ben Macintyre writes). The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which owns and manages the World Trade Centre complex, has contacted five investment banks with a view to selling part or all of the city's tallest building.

Alabama convicts back in chains

FROM IAN BRODIE IN HUNSTSVILLE, ALABAMA

A TOTAL of 320 subdued but angry men knelt on the ground yesterday to be shackled together at the ankles, five to a chain, eight feet apart. They were put to work under the gaze of armed guards to cut grass, clear ditches and pick up litter beside a motorway. They wore white cotton jackets, trousers and caps.

That was the scene yesterday as Alabama revived the dreaded prison chain-gang.

"I feel humiliated," James Sears, 30, who is serving 12 years for armed robbery, said. "You can't even chain up five dogs alongside the road without the animal protection society getting on your case."

His views were echoed by others in the gang. "It's all a bunch of hype," Dwayne Rowe, 25, a convicted drug dealer, said as he gazed at the flock of reporters and television crews invited to cover this penal milestone.

Ron Jones, the state's Prisons Commissioner, believes that prison should be hard. Men sent to the chain-gangs, soon to be increased to nearly 1,000, are all second offenders or parole violators.

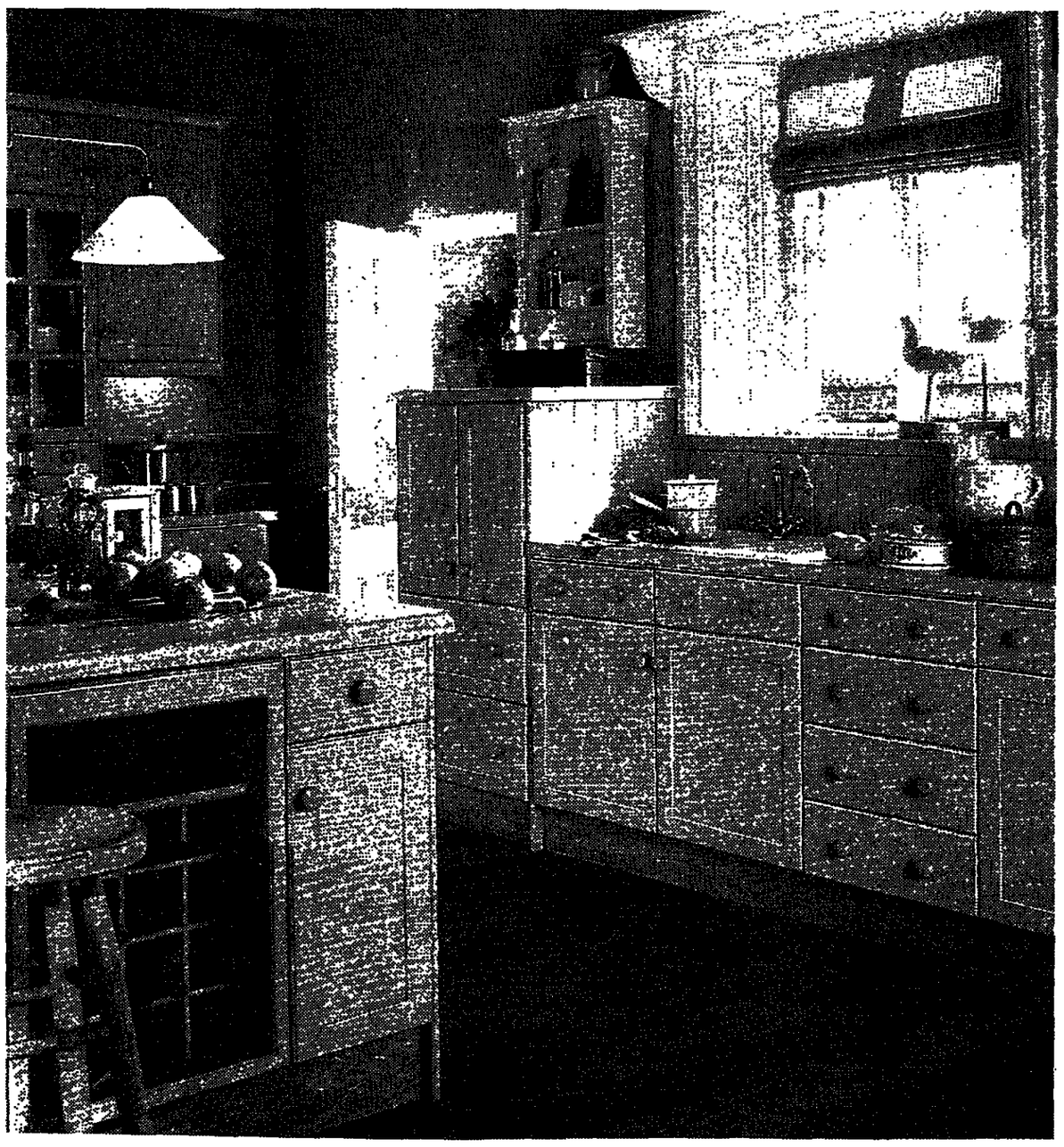
The gangs will work 12 hours a day, five days a week, in temperatures that climb into the nineties in summer, with only one water break every hour and a brief lunch. Nor is there much for them to look forward to back at the prison. They have been deprived of television, radio and snack-shop privileges as well as visits. About all they can do, one said, is play dominoes. Lights go out at 9pm and the men rise at 4am.

In London, David Marshall, of the Human Rights Committee of the English Bar, denounced the reintroduction of chain-gangs as a backward step that should be challenged in court.

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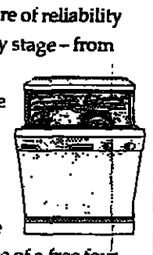
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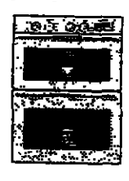
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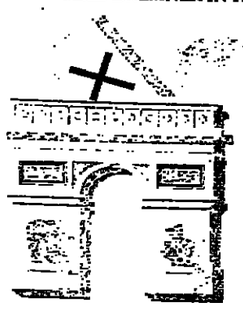
Mitterrand steals limelight from lacklustre debate

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN PARIS

JACQUES CHIRAC, the Gaullist candidate, cruised on as firm favourite for the French presidency yesterday after a lacklustre television debate with Lionel Jospin, the Socialist, which sent viewers scurrying for other channels but was hailed by the political world for its dignity.

Relief suffused a Gaullist camp delighted that the gaffe-prone M Chirac, 62, had done nothing to shake his image as the more statesmanlike candidate in a 180-minute exchange. Although M Jospin, 57, held his own in a courteous joust on policy differences, their showdown was deemed unlikely to swing many undecided voters ahead of Sunday's election. While the media world gave M Chirac the edge on points, straw polls suggested sympathy for the honourable performance by the professorial M Jospin against an old warhorse of the political scene. The latest polls show M Chirac staying about eight percentage points ahead in the race to succeed President Mitterrand. Television networks reported that the video duel was watched by about 16 million viewers, only half the expected audience.

As the "spin-doctors" of each campaign claimed victory for their man, M Mitterrand held the spotlight, presiding over the final cabinet meeting of his 14-year presidency and visiting the site on the banks of the Seine where youths from the far



FRENCH ELECTION

Right National Front of Jean-Marie Le Pen are alleged to have drowned a Moroccan man during a parade on Monday. "This crime causes me great suffering," he said after laying flowers by the Pont du Carousel, where Brahim Bouarram was drowned by skinhead thugs. "I would not say it causes me shame because it was not the country that desired this but a minority of twisted, deformed, misled people." Thousands of demonstrators marched to the spot in protest against the killing and the emergence of M Le Pen's cause as a big force in the elections.

The weekly cabinet session, estimated to have been the 1,300th attended by M Mitterrand in 50 years, was one of his last acts of government. "You have written a page in our history. You have left your mark," Edouard Balladur, the Gaullist Prime Minister, told him as he also took leave after two years of running the "cohabitation" Government and failing to beat M Chirac for the presidency.

M Mitterrand is to hand over the Elysée Palace to the new President in about ten days, after attending VE-Day celebrations in Moscow. In keeping with the law, M Mitterrand also published a statement of personal wealth for the first time since 1988. This showed that he was better-off, with several hundred thousand pounds-worth of assets, but far less than suggested by best-selling books which claim that he has enriched his family in shady dealings.

The leave-taking of the ailing President was marred by Michel Rocard, his long-time Socialist rival and a former Prime Minister. He claimed that the President had "killed" attempts to create a reformed left-wing movement. "A Socialist is going to step down, leaving the Left in a state that could take a decade to overcome," he said.

☐ **Lyons:** An appeal court freed on bail Alain Carignon, a former Communications Minister, who has been in jail awaiting trial for seven months. M Carignon, a Gaullist and Mayor of Grenoble, faces up to ten years in prison if convicted of corruption and fraud. *(Reuter)*



A skinhead under arrest in Paris yesterday after the murder of a Moroccan

Brittan's rebuke angers Ottawa

FROM RICHARD CLEROUX IN OTTAWA

IF THE European External Trade Commissioner, Sir Leon Brittan, was sent to Ottawa to help in patching up things between Canada and the European Union after their recent fishing dispute, he made a fine mess of things.

At a private lunch on Tuesday, Sir Leon criticised Canada for using gunboat diplomacy and aggressive tactics against Spanish fishing vessels in international waters off Newfoundland in March. He said that Canada's actions jeopardised closer trade ties with Europe.

His words got back to Jean Chretien, the Prime Minister, who cancelled a meeting with Sir Leon planned for that afternoon. Sir Leon had told the lunch guests that it was time for Canada to "face up to the fact that the effect of the dispute will be to reduce European enthusiasm for any further opening up to Canada for the time being".

Sir Leon arrived at the Prime Minister's office later only to find Mr Chretien was not there. He was told the Prime Minister had "an unexpected engagement", the diplomatic euphemism for a snub.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Threat of terrorism by Maoris

Wellington: Maori activists yesterday gave a warning of terrorism aimed at foreign investors in New Zealand, as the Government tried woo investment at an international conference (Michael Munro writes).

Michael Smith, a Maori leader, said after a clash between protesters and the police outside a meeting of the Asian Development Bank in Auckland: "Terrorism will be used if necessary to combat the privatisation of resources so they can be sold to overseas investors." Jim Bolger, the Prime Minister, said the warning was outrageous, irresponsible, and beyond the limits of reasonable protest.

UN blocked

Seoul: UN monitors of the Korean armistice have been banned from entering North Korea as part of Pyongyang's campaign for a peace treaty with America formally to end the 1950-53 war. *(Reuter)*

Ban overturned

Jakarta: An Indonesian court ruled against a government ban imposed on a weekly magazine *Tempo*, which published critical articles about political life under President Suharto. *(Reuter)*

Rise of organised crime 'a threat to world security'

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

MOST of the world's nations are suffering from weak leaders running "shaky governments" who spend so much time worrying about disgruntled voters that they have little inclination to produce positive initiatives in foreign affairs, the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) said yesterday in its annual report.

"The only leaders in sight with vision and conviction are possessed by some form of fanatical ideology," the institute said. "For most, muddling through is the only ... style of leadership available."

Yet at this time of "pervading impotence" in international affairs, there was a multitude of new threats to world security, including the global traffic in nuclear materials and drugs, organised crime, and the undermining by criminals of financial and commercial institutions.

The spread of commercially available technologies with potentially significant military applications threatened to complicate regional military balances and international security. For example, the ability to exploit the military potential of space-based navigational systems was no longer limited to the leading military powers. With the arrival of sophisticated commercial satellite receivers, Third World countries could develop new types of cruise or ballistic missiles.

The threat posed by the traffic in nuclear materials from the former Soviet Union had increased with the emergence of criminal organisations that seemed to be dominating Russian society. The institute said there were an estimated 5,700 criminal gangs in Russia with a membership of more than 100,000.

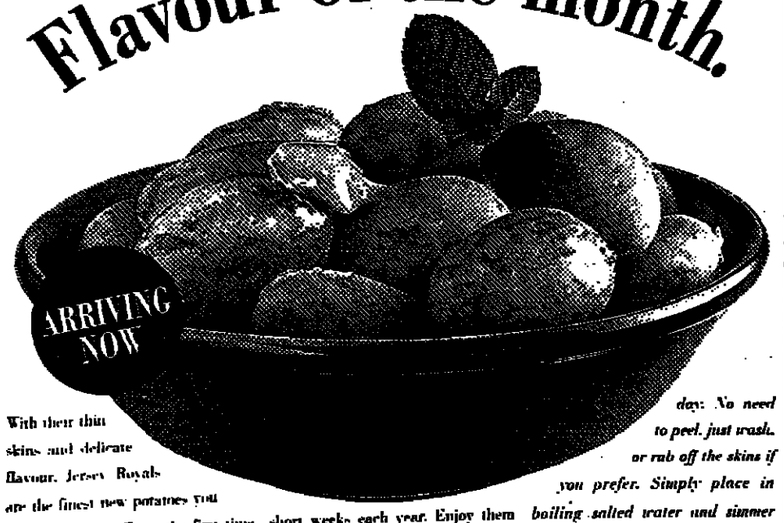
Criminal organisations were also involved in smuggling people. According to one estimate, crime groups are now trying to smuggle as many as one million people a year from poor to wealthier countries.

More countries were being drawn into the orbit of drug traffickers and trans-national criminal organisations. Brazil, for example, was "playing an increasingly important role as a trans-shipment state", the institute said. The threat was "insidious, pervasive and multi-faceted" and put national security at risk.

☐ *Strategic Survey 1994-1995* (Oxford University Press; £19.99)

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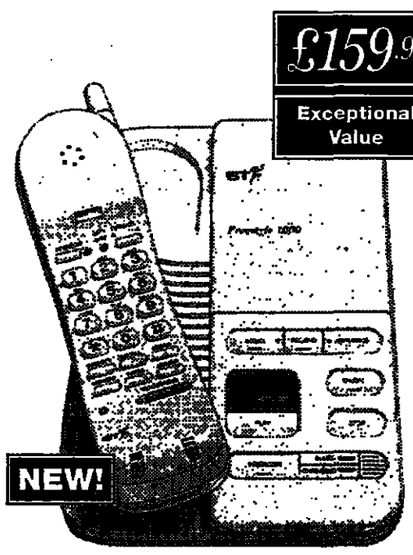
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Martin Fletcher on Tipper Gore, as she prepares to visit London

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Tipper and Al Gore in Egypt: the couple remain transparently in love and Mrs Gore has always insisted on putting her family first, even at the expense of her own career

Washington's friendly face

Londoners should watch this weekend for an attractive 46-year-old blonde snapping scenes of the capital with a Nikon camera while a couple of burly crew-cut men hover near by. This will not be just another American tourist, but Tipper Gore making her first official trip to Britain with the Vice-President. America's "Second Lady" is determined to steal away between the VE-Day celebrations and dates at Buckingham Palace and Downing Street to indulge her passion for photography.

Mrs Gore will doubtless enjoy all the weekend's formal pomp and ceremony, but it really is not her style. She prefers spontaneity — flying off at a moment's notice to help in a Rwandan refugee camp, as she did last summer, coaxing her embarrassed husband into an unscripted boogie on the stage of the Democrats' 1992 convention, or firing water pistols at reporters.

Later in the 1992 campaign she telephoned CNN's *Larry King Show* during a live appearance by her husband, disguised her voice, told Mr Gore he was the best-looking man she had ever seen and asked for a date. She let him splutter and turn crimson before revealing her identity.

> She will steal away from the pomp and ceremony to indulge her passion for photography

Shortly after President Clinton's inauguration, the Vice-President's wife was spotted whizzing across Washington's Memorial Bridge, arms in the air, on the back of an aide's Harley-Davidson. She rollerblades. She works out with Cindy Crawford videos. She is a rock fan and plays the drums. Her Secret Service codename is, appropriately, Skylark.

Waiting in a private lounge for a flight home from Chicago last year, Mrs Gore ordered pizza for all her team, Secret Service included, when she was told the Japanese Ambassador was outside and would like to meet her. Bring him in for pizza, she suggested. Certainly not, replied Sally Aman, her press secretary, who insisted the pizza first be removed. Later, Ms Aman confesses, she got a letter from the Ambassador saying he "really would have enjoyed the pizza".

There was a time when Mrs Gore was considered a bit of a liability to her husband, but not any more. Like the Japanese Ambassador, America has responded to her warmth and sense of fun, and she has become quite an asset to a desperately earnest White House.

She leavens her respected but publicly wooden husband. She is the perfect counterweight to a First Lady widely perceived as cool, driven and intimidating. And while many suspect the Clintons' marriage is one of political convenience, the Gores remain transparently in love, the parents of four handsome, wholesome children and the embodiment of "family values". Occasionally, in the privacy of their own home, they still kick off their shoes and dance.



> She plays the drums, she works out, her codename is Skylark

Nicknamed Tipper after a lullaby her mother used to sing her, Mrs Gore was raised in the Washington suburb of Arlington. Her parents divorced when she was four and she and her mother moved in with her grandparents. She was educated at a traditional private school, where she formed an all-girl band called the Wildcats, and at 16 met Al, the handsome son of a senator, at a dance. It was, she says, "absolutely pure animal magnetism" and the beginning of a "very powerful love experience". He ditched his first and only serious girlfriend the very next day.

When Mr Gore went to Harvard she followed, studying at Boston College. They smoked marijuana, marched against the Vietnam War, and were married 25 years ago to the Beatles' song *All You Need Is Love*. He was 22, she 21.

Mr Gore served briefly in Vietnam to spare his father political embarrassment. He then returned to his native Tennessee where he joined *The Daily Tennessean* as a reporter and she as a part-time photographer, simultaneously earning a master's degree in psychology. When Mr Gore was elected to Congress they moved back to her grandfather's Arlington home.

Mrs Gore never sought to balance career and family as Hillary Clinton did. She unashamedly put family first, confining herself to copious voluntary work for the homeless and mentally ill, her mother having suffered from depression. In 1987 she was so outraged by the sexually-explicit lyrics of one of her teenage daughter's albums that she and Susan Baker, wife of the former Republican Secretary of State, launched a high-profile crusade to have warning labels put on records.

She succeeded, but at a cost. The music industry accused her of prudery and censorship. Frank Zappa called her a "cultural terrorist". Commentators claimed her stand damaged her husband's 1988 presidential campaign, though it would now be considered mainstream.

In 1989 the Gores' six-year-old son Albert was nearly killed by a speeding car as the family left a Baltimore Orioles baseball game. They spent a month by his hospital bed. Mr Gore cited the accident and his redoubled commitment to his family in ruling out a 1992 presidential bid.

As it happened, Mr Clinton asked him to be his running mate. Tipper and Hillary Clinton immediately became firm friends. She and Mr Clinton found they shared not just a birthday but the same impulsive, emotional nature. The Clintons and Gores embarked on a hugely successful bus tour of the Midwest that Mrs Gore later described as a "major double date". The two couples still dine together whenever possible, the three Gore daughters have befriended Chelsea, and the President has made Mrs Gore his unpaid adviser on mental health policy with an office next to the White House.

Second Lady or not, Mrs Gore's family still comes first. She works three or four days a week, but avoids overnight travel whenever possible and likes to return to the Naval Observatory, the Vice-President's official residency, by 3.30pm, when Albert returns from school. She attends her daughter's lacrosse games like any other parent. She has even persuaded the Secret Service to pick her children up from the movies in unmarked Jeeps, not embarrassing black limousines.

Mrs Gore is "having a blast", says her husband, but she has not lost the common touch. Together they jogged past a homeless man near the Observatory last year. He admits he did not notice. She returned with hot soup.

Family home with campus attached

Hilary Macaskill meets the linguist who produces best-selling encyclopedias on a shoestring

People get annoyed by language. David Crystal knows this better than most. A former professor of linguistics, his relaxed style is familiar to listeners of *Speak Out* on BBC Radio 4.

"They want me to be prescriptive. They would write to me, always sending a copy to the Director-General with a first-class stamp, as if it were a matter of the utmost importance, as if language couldn't wait until the end of the week. And they would say they were 'appalled'. If they use 'appalled' about a split infinitive, what language would they use if the Pope was shot?"

Pedantic grammarians may be appalled by his new book, *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language* (£29.95). The section on the rise of prescriptive grammar, for example, makes clear that what we think of as the "correct" rules of traditional grammar appeared only in the latter part of the 18th century.

His full colour, 500-page, hardback survey weighs 5lb, and spans continents and centuries at a bound. Its sumptuous appearance suggests scores of Cambridge academics beavering away; in reality it was produced by Mr Crystal and a handful of assistants in his small house in Holyhead, Gwynedd. Next to Mr Crystal's study is a room containing six computer terminals, a photocopier, fax, a postal franking machine and his production team. This is cottage industry, Nineties-style.



An illustration from Crystal's encyclopedia

The study shelves are crammed with books bearing Crystal's name. These are reference works also found in academic libraries the world over. But Mr Crystal turned his back on campus life more than a decade ago, when he gave up his professorship at the University of Reading.

"The day I decided to go was the day I spent working out whether it was cheaper for students on the speech therapy course to go by bus or train to the different clinics. The job of department secretary had been axed to save money, but nobody had costed my time as a professor," he says.

Visiting his uncle in Holyhead soon afterwards, he came upon a house for sale. He bought it, and began his freelance life. His first project was an encyclopedia of language. "I hawked it round three or four publishers and Cambridge University Press took it on slightly reluctantly — they thought an illustrated book on language didn't make much sense." *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language* has been reprinted seven times since 1987 and is one of their bestsellers.

His next plan, to devote a book exclusively to English, was diverted by a request to edit the general reference *Cambridge Encyclopedia*. "How often do you get paid to learn about everything?" One contributor wrote a note of congratulation, exclaiming: "I wasn't aware you had a background in chemistry." "I don't," was Crystal's reply. "But I know a good sentence about chemistry when I see one."

Mr Crystal built a house extension after the encyclopedia's publication in 1990 as he needed more space for the computers demanded by spin-off projects — there will soon be seven volumes, including biographical and junior editions, as well as a CD-Rom version. A spiral staircase has been added to allow access for workers updating the database.

Mr Crystal's wife, Hilary, works as editorial administrator, and their children, Ben and Lucy, as occasional fact-checkers in what has become a family business.

Additional staff mean that David Crystal could return to his pet project, the all-colour encyclopaedia of English. His down-to-earth approach is as evident as ever, with examples of usage drawn from comics (Desperate Dan makes an appearance), advertisements and sports commentary. While accommodating the national curriculum, the book is also "fixed very firmly in the street". So the history of English and analysis of vocabulary is enlivened by anecdotes, word games, and a box about *Blankety Blank*.



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IMRAN, CHARITY, SIN AND SEX

Imran Khan has seen the light. But, as political power beckons, is the cricketing demigod turning into an Islamic demagogue? Vicki Woods reports, in **The Magazine** this Sunday

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A doctor's advice at the end of a phone ☐ A natural way to avoid syringing ears ☐ High-tech interference for pacemaker wearers

Dial M for medicine





MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttaford

ONE patient I saw recently who would have benefited from some medical knowledge was an elderly man with the complexion of a traditional butcher. He complained of headache, tiredness, breathlessness and itching. He said that the itching was intolerable when it became too hot, such as after a bath. This patient was suffering from the opposite of anaemia, polycythaemia: his blood was too rich in haemoglobin, he had too many red blood cells. He had been aware of this for some time but had always congratulated himself on his blood count, feeling that if it was bad to be anaemic, it must be good to have a high haemoglobin.

Polycythaemia is divided into two groups. Primary polycythaemia is rare and affects only one person in 200,000, mainly older men as it is four times more common in males. Secondary polycythaemia is much more common and is usually a reaction to poor oxygenation of the blood, often as a result of smoking or lung disease. It is normal in those who live in high altitudes. Treatment is by old-fashioned blood-letting: in cases of primary polycythaemia, the bone marrow may also have to be partially suppressed. With treatment patients do well; without it they do badly, for thrombosis is an ever-present risk.

Some doctors are irritated when a patient comes to the consulting room well-briefed and armed with a sheaf of clippings from newspapers and health magazines. Others welcome the chance to use this information as a starting point for a discussion on the likely cause of the patient's symptoms.

Most doctors find it easier to talk to somebody who has knowledge, so long as the patient is prepared to listen to other points of view. Patients are likely to be much better informed in the future. *Which?*, the consumer magazine, has started a Healthline service which enables anybody to telephone for a brief account of their disease or symptoms. There are several hundred headings in their directory, each one of them numbered; the caller merely telephones 0645 245 and then the number of the chosen topic. The service is charged at local rates. Call 0645 245000 for details of the directory, or freephone 0800 252100. For people who live in North East Thames or Yorkshire, the bill is paid by the NHS; they should ring 0800 665544.

The advice given is safe, sound, politically correct, possibly even bland. The views are so establishment that they could be being given by the doctor on *The Archers* when he is warning listeners of the latest health hazard.

The *Which?* Healthline provides general information and an outline of the complaint, but must of necessity in many instances suggest that patients should also talk to their own doctor.

So far as my patients are concerned, I would welcome it if they had listened to the service before coming to me. The patient with polycythaemia and I searched the Healthline directory together, but it was in vain: polycythaemia was not included. Would that it had been, then he might have had the necessary treatment earlier and avoided his rather distressing symptoms.

Wax work



EAR wax is a vaguely distasteful subject, but an excess of it can be a recurrent problem, and time-consuming for GPs.

Recent research reported in the *British Journal of Clinical Practice* by doctors from St James's Hospital, Dublin, suggests that the average GP, or his nurse, syringes ears twice a week. If ears are not cleared the patient suffers increasing deafness and, if the wax is in contact with the drums, may have discomfort and feel dizzy.

The wax is composed of secretions from sebaceous glands in the hair follicles which line the external ear canal, secretions of the ceruminous glands (modified sweat glands), and dead skin.

The Dublin team conducted experiments to find out whether the use of oil or water-based wax solvents would render syringing less necessary, or ease the task. They found that natural expulsion of the wax clears one-third of all ears without any medical interference. In half the cases in which the ears were blocked when first seen, the wax was broken up by the solvents and naturally expelled.

Although ear syringing is a common procedure, it is not without complications. The *British Medical Journal* reported about four years ago that one in 1,000 people who had their ears syringed suffered pain or dizziness, or sometimes more serious damage. Solvents can cause irritation, but no case of this was reported by the Dublin doctors.

Heart talk



RECENT reports that high-tech gadgetry can affect the controls of airliners has added another focus for worried travellers. But pilots and their passengers are not alone in their anxiety.. Problems of interference may increasingly trouble patients who wear pacemakers, the small machines implanted near the heart which artificially govern its timing. Research in Britain and America has shown that in some circumstances digital cellular telephones (but not the analogue ones, which are still the type most often used now) may confuse the pacemaker and even stop it.

Experiments carried out so far suggest that if the telephone is used in the normal speaking position all is well; interference has been noted only when it is held close to the pacemaker, up against the chest. So far there have been no recorded deaths.

It is recommended that owners of a digital cellular telephone who also have a pacemaker should always turn the telephone off before putting it in the breast pocket, should use the right ear when having a telephone conversation as it is further from the heart, and should never operate a telephone within 10-12 inches of the pacemaker.

The digital telephones may be secure against eavesdroppers, but those who have a pacemaker fitted and who are more concerned about their health than about the Sunday papers will be well advised to stick to the analogues.



Tom Weston six months after major revision of his original operation for cleft palate

The anatomy of a face

Many British children born with a cleft lip are being denied the best surgery, says **Dr James Le Fanu**

"I expected to swim through it," is how Mrs Liz Weston recalls her feelings when admitted to the obstetric ward of a London teaching hospital in 1991. This was her third pregnancy, there had been no complications and all her scans and blood tests had been normal. But when, after a short labour, her son, Tom, was delivered he had a large gap running through his upper lip and into the palate.

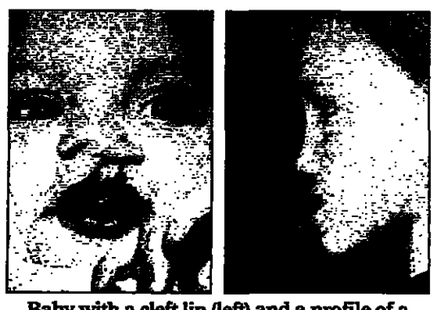
Though extremely distressed, she was reassured to be told her baby's defect could be fixed almost immediately, and within the week the hospital's plastic surgeon sewed the two sides of the upper lip together. A few months later the hole in the palate was patched over.

Soon after the second operation Mrs Weston and her family moved to Bournemouth and, having been told that Tom might need speech therapy, she made the appropriate inquiries and was delighted to learn that a surgeon working at the town's main hospital, Tony Markus, had a special interest in children with Tom's condition.

Their first meeting, she remembers, as "a terrible shock". "He was obviously terribly nice and sympathetic but he told me that Tom's operation would have to be completely redone. I could not believe it. I thought as his repair had been performed at a London teaching hospital he must have had the best possible treatment. But now it seems he would have to have another two major procedures over the next 18 months. Both my husband and I were deeply sceptical."

For nine months they prevaricated, but having met and talked to parents of children with the same problem, "eventually we were convinced. Mr Markus's results were obviously very good; what really decided us was that his arguments seemed to make such good sense."

The face is formed in early embryonic development from sheets of tissue that grow inwards from either side and upwards for what becomes the chin to unite in the middle. Failure of fusion results in several deformities, varying in severity from a cleft or hare lip on one side to a wide gap on both sides of the nose that stretches up and back through the tissue of the gums into the nostrils all the way to the back of the palate. Over the years many operations have been devised to repair the defect which all involve sewing the skin and muscles on either side of the cleft together again. Initially there is usually a good aesthetic result and the face appears normal. But as the child grows various anomalies appear. The nose becomes skewed to one side and the shape of the face in profile is abnormal, with a flattened central part and protuberant jaw. The child develops speech difficulties with a marked nasal intonation compounded by poor growth of the soft palate at the back of the throat.



Baby with a cleft lip (left) and a profile of a child who has had standard surgery (right)

The cause of these late complications — which in turn require further complicated surgery and extensive orthodontic treatment — was thought to be the same genetic abnormality that had given rise to the cleft lip in the first place, a deficiency in the growth potential of the tissues of the face.

There is, however, another very different explanation. It might seem obvious that the growth of the face through childhood into adult life is primarily determined by the underlying bony skeleton, but this is not the case. To grow in harmony, all the soft tissues, the overlying skin, the muscles, the tongue and the teeth have to interact with each other and with the underlying bone, moulding the shape of the skull as it enlarges. Thus the eruption of the teeth of the lower gum is dictated by the downward force exerted by the teeth in the upper gum, and vice versa. The muscles of facial expression around the mouth and nose exert traction on the underlying bone and pull the centre of the face forward.

From this perspective the late complications of cleft lip surgery are not inevitable, but rather caused by a surgical failure to restore fully the anatomical relations disrupted by the embryonic failure of fusion. This explanation in turn requires that the initial operation needs to be much more extensive to achieve what is known as a "functional repair".

The standard cleft lip procedure involves reuniting the *orbicularis oris* muscle that surrounds the mouth; with a functional repair the other muscle groups around the nose are also mobilised and reconnected to the underlying bone. In a review of these two approaches in next month's issue of the *Journal of Oral and Maxillo-Facial Surgery*, Professor Ulrich Joos of the University of Münster, Germany, reports normal development of the midface in all children with a functional repair compared with only 20 per cent of those who have the standard surgical procedure.

Mr Markus has had similar results prompting the question of why everybody has not switched to the new techniques, or rather why he thinks it necessary to redo cleft palate operations performed by other surgeons.

In Britain cleft palates have usually been dealt with as if they were primarily a cosmetic defect, requiring the skills of the plastic surgeon. The concept of the functional repair however, has been pioneered by Mr Markus's speciality — oral and maxillo-facial surgeons whose training focuses on and requires a detailed understanding of the complex anatomy of the face.

Recently plastic surgeons have come to recognise their results have been less than satisfactory, certainly compared with those obtained in other West European countries. They believe, however, the explanation lies in the fact that too many surgeons have been doing too few operations.

Professor Bill Shaw of Manchester University is a firm protagonist of this view and with some difficulty has managed to persuade 15 of the 18 plastic surgeons in the North West to give up cleft palate work in favour of three of their colleagues who now do all the operations.

This is certainly an advance but as Mr Markus points out: "Numbers [of operations] are important and the more experienced the surgeon the better the results." But the key issue, he maintains, remains the technique — the extensive type of operation that maximises the chances of a truly functional repair.

Mrs Weston has no regrets about placing her trust in his judgment. "As an artist I have been taught to look at people's faces and it is obvious that their shape and symmetry is determined by the structures underneath. Agreeing that Tom should have a major revision of his original operations remains the most difficult decision I have ever made." But the result, she says, is "simply wonderful".

Soldiers who fought 50 years ago are helping us to understand reactions to trauma today

From shell shock to combat fatigue

A study of the long-term effects of combat, published in this month's *American Journal of Psychiatry*, seems a particularly fitting way to mark the anniversary of the end of the war in Europe.

The subjects of the study, by the respected American psychiatrist George Valliant, are 268 young men who attended Harvard University between 1939 and 1944. They were first studied as students, and have been followed up in meticulous detail ever since. This month's paper looks at them some 50 years on.

That soldiers suffer psychological distress is not a new finding — the concept of shell-shock was introduced during the First World War, and its successor, combat fatigue, during the Second. But it was the individual and collective trauma of the Vietnam War that opened our eyes to the long-term effects of war experience.

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) was a new diagnosis introduced by American psychiatrists in the 1970s to describe persistent psychological distress in Vietnam veterans. The symptoms of PTSD include general anxiety, emotional numbing, unwonted and distressing re-experiencing of the original trauma.

Some professionals continue to have doubts about the validity of PTSD, arguing that its causes lie less in the trauma itself and more in the background of the sufferer.

The latest Harvard paper significantly extends our knowledge of the condition. Of the original sample of 268, 243 saw military service. Thus by the age of 22, 90 per cent of the chosen students had joined the Armed Forces. It is hard to think of a greater contrast between these young men, whom the researchers confirmed had pride in the Armed Forces and enthusiasm for military service, and the Vietnam veterans who have determined most of our thinking about the long-term effects of combat stress.

There was also a contrast with British attitudes to military service. America had not endured the same experience of the Great War, and had no evocation of the "lost generation" that characterised British memories. It was still possible in the Harvard of 1941 for almost an entire class to join up, and be keen to do so.

What happened afterwards? During the war 171 served overseas, of whom 19 were killed. It is the surviving 152 that form the basis of the study. All were interviewed on their return to civilian life in 1946. Only 17 had two or more symptoms of PTSD, and only one had full-blown PTSD.

Remarkably the authors were able to follow up 107 veterans 50 years later — 84 per cent of those still alive. Those with definite or probable PTSD had not done well. The veteran with definite PTSD had committed suicide, a second was murdered and a third had cut himself off from the others and refused to take part in the study.

However, those were the exceptions. Most of the others who had combat-related symptoms in 1946 still had them 50 years later, but these symptoms had not interfered with their lives. They were socially and psychologically well adjusted, and many were listed in *Who's Who in America*. None of the others who had also experienced intense combat, but in 1946 had no psychological symptoms, developed any over the next 50 years.



Combat stress: a GI in 1943

As one would expect, some individuals had experienced other mental health problems, unrelated to the war, but these were already predictable on the standard measures of psychological health taken when the group were still at university, and were not linked to wartime experiences.

In contrast post-traumatic symptoms were associated only with combat experience, and not the prior psychological measures. The 17 who experienced some traumatic symptoms in 1946 and beyond were significantly more likely to have experienced intense combat, and included all those who had been wounded.

What this exceptional study has shown is that psychological reactions to trauma, if they occur, persist. The worse the trauma, the more the symptoms. The normal processes by which we adapt to psychological distress do not seem to happen with such intense experiences. On the other hand, although memories of wartime combat do not fade away, and still cause distress half a century later, veterans can still function normally. Furthermore, many of those in combat never develop any psychological distress at all.

Those who watched the moving final episode of Jeremy Isaacs's *World at War* will remember not only the poignant stories of pain, despair and suffering, but also the other accounts of veterans for whom their wartime experiences were the high points of their lives.

Harvard graduates are not typical. However, it is precisely because these soldiers came from privileged backgrounds in contrast to the Vietnam veterans, many of whom were already socially disadvantaged before they joined the Army, that we are able to learn for the first time the true extent of the long-term consequences of battle trauma.

DR SIMON WESSELY

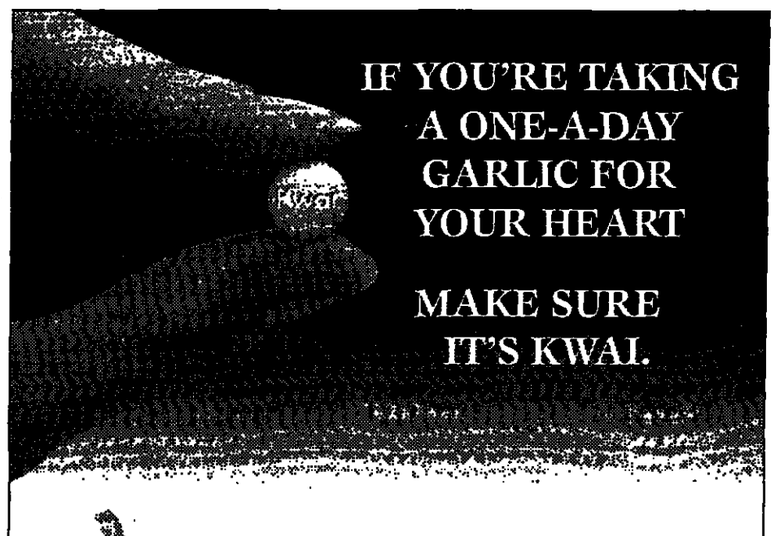
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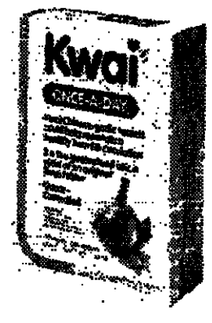
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Janet Daley



■ The National Lottery — and why the British would rather admit to snobbery than to moral disapproval

Is it wrong to get something for nothing? To most people, the idea that trying to win a fortune was morally wrong would seem bizarre. Gambling may be a slightly seedy recreation at the down-market end or a glamorously pastime at the upper one, but regarding it as sinful to profit from your luck as opposed to your labour sounds positively quaint.

Or does it? Do we not find the greed-fest in which television embeds the lottery result to be a shaming blot on the nation's Saturday evenings? Ah, you say, that distaste is not so much ethical as aesthetic. Which may well be true, but isn't it odd that the British are so much more willing to admit to snobbery than to moral disapproval?

And yet, fearless reproach was once at the heart of a vital working-class religious culture. Continence of all kinds was the key to social advancement. For those who wished to improve themselves, leaving behind the drink and the dog track was an essential step to self-respect. Denying yourself the conviviality of the pub and the bookmaker's was not only a sign that you were unprepared to risk the family's bread: it also meant that you were investing (financially and emotionally) in the future.

> Mothers are said to be using child benefit for gambling

Endorsing the bourgeois virtue of thrift means that you think it worth your while to save: that tomorrow might be better than today, that it is possible to make some long-term improvement in your condition. To refrain from gambling is to believe that there is a point to self-denial. What would seem to follow from this is that being *unable* to resist is a sign of hopelessness: an admission that the only way you are ever going to escape from your futile existence is by relying on gratuitous fate. It is the despair that is assumed to underlie compulsive gambling which produces such an ambivalent response among the conscientious classes.

Where the temptations of drink and gaming were once seen as a test of moral fibre, they are now given quasi-medical status by the counselling industry. Like alcoholism, "lottery addiction" is now to be regarded as an illness. But where alcohol can produce actual physical addiction, a "dependence" on gambling can only be emotional. Whether you call that personality syndrome "weakness of character" or "psychological maladjustment" depends on your moral standpoint (or lack of one). Both these views — the one that sees gambling as wicked and the "addiction" model — played their part in the long-standing resistance to a national lottery.

Now, the worst fears of both sets of objectors seem to be being realised. Mothers are reputed to be moving from the post office window where they collect their child benefit, to one where they can lose the whole amount in ten minutes of feverish card scratching. Where the original lottery system involved some suspense — resolved only at the end of the week by a repulsive television programme — at least it did not offer the instant gratification which now holds in thrall those who can least afford to lose money.

Scratch cards are probably the optimum form of gambling with which to breed obsession: they require no skill, can be bought at respectable outlets, and are deceptively inexpensive. Victorian Methodists would have recognised them as a perfect invitation to sordid captivation.

That women should be so caught up in this evokes a particularly squalid cultural memory. Hogarth's depiction of mothers by cheap gin was an image which spurred the 19th-century Puritan revival. There is something peculiarly disturbing about the thought of mothers drinking or gambling away the family income. Because women are expected to have more of an instinctive sense of responsibility towards their children than men have, their fecklessness is seen both as more culpable, and as a more serious sign of social pathology.

Before the mass unemployment of the 1980s, the traditional model of the "good" working-class father was the man who handed over his wage packet to his wife, which was thought to guarantee that it would be used for the family's welfare. Paying child benefit directly to mothers was a way of preventing "bad" fathers from drinking or gambling it away. If women succumb to debauchery, then surely — the argument goes — this must be a sign of great social despair.

But there was a time when despair itself was thought to be a vice: a form of defeatism to which one should not succumb. And that view was based on the supposition that one could choose whether or not to give in to hopelessness. The Victorians reformed their destitute classes with a harsh regime of disapproval and disincentives. They forbade and punished in ways that look heartless to our guilt-ridden eyes. Those who offered temptation were excoriated as much as those who were trapped by it, which is a very egalitarian aproach: to assume that the poor are free to make choices about their behaviour is to treat them with a kind of respect that we — for all our enlightenment — have largely lost.



Bomb's unlikely winners

Oklahoma could benefit Clinton and Wilson in the presidential race

William Rees-Mogg

The Oklahoma bomb has horrified America, and for the time being at least, changed American politics. Apart from the initial suspect, Timothy McVeigh, a disturbed ex-soldier who fought in the Gulf War, nobody knows who was responsible, although much organisation must have been required. He had associations with right-wing militia groups, and the date of the attack suggest that the motivation involved the Waco massacre of two years ago. The main political beneficiary so far has been President Clinton: his visit to Oklahoma City showed again what a skilled public performer he is, and reminded Republicans that he is still a powerful electoral campaigner.

McVeigh's association with conservative groups gave the President a chance to attack all his critics. "These people, who do they think they are, saying their Government has stamped on freedom? ... I don't know that there's another country in the world that would by law protect the right of a lot of these groups to say what they want to say."

The Arkansas scandals have not gone away; there are still two special prosecutors, there are renewed doubts about the supposed suicide of Vincent Foster, there are further Senate and House inquiries to come and there are as many "deep throats" in Arkansas as there are in the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, but the President has skilfully suggested that inquiries about Arkansas are politically motivated.

The Republicans have been forcibly reminded that Mr Clinton is not finished yet; some of them are starting to see him as a sort of Dracula in the White House, who walks again each time he seems to have been disposed of. Oklahoma has also put pressure on the official investigators. Rumours continue that the Starr inquiry is preparing further indictments of people involved in the Arkansas network; the pressures to settle for merely technical charges are greater than they have ever been. Some Republican voters believe that their leaders in Congress, including Robert Dole himself, the leader of the Senate, have themselves succumbed to these pressures.

The political impact of Oklahoma has certainly made President Clinton more formidable; it has not made ordinary Republicans like him any better or trust him any more. It is strange to have to compare Mr Clinton with Franklin Roosevelt, yet the hostility of Republicans to the President is probably greater than it has been since the 1930s. For obvious party reasons, Republicans do not like Democratic Presidents, but we are now back to the total hostility which led ordinary Republicans of the 1930s to talk angrily about "that man in the White House". Most Republicans think that a second Clinton term would be "disastrous for America", and, as one of them added grimly to me, "disastrous for the world".

Oklahoma City has also altered the logic of the race for the Republican nomination. Because they are less confident, the Republicans are more concerned to find a winner; they suspect that winning the presidency in 1996 may not be as easy as they thought. Because they have been smeared by the President, the Christian conservative groups on the Right of the party have been weakened. Because there is a growing suspicion that Senate Republicans are getting too close to the White House, anti-Washington feeling is beginning to affect public attitudes to the Republican senators. For these reasons, the other main political beneficiary of the horror of Oklahoma, apart from Mr Clinton, is Governor Pete Wilson of California, who is seeking the Republican nomination.

Last Monday evening, I went to a dinner for Governor Wilson at the Willard Hotel in Washington. Even in fundraising terms, the dinner was spectacular; the chairman announced that it had raised $450,000, with much more in pledges. So far, Governor Wilson has not even declared himself a candidate: this function was organised by an exploratory committee. But he clearly is a candidate and running hard; he is expected to make the formal announcement this month.

Three candidates for the Republican nomination have a similar level of fundraising capacity, the leader of the Senate, Bob Dole, Senator Phil Gramm of Texas and Governor Wilson himself. Each will find it easy to raise, or may already have raised, the $20 million to $30 million which an effective campaign would cost. Mr Wilson's "exploratory committee" raised $8 million in three days of telephone calling, with a further $15 million in pledges. Most political observers think that the Republican nomination can go only to one of these three large fundraisers, and that other declared candidates, including the excellent Senator Lugar of Indiana, do not have adequate funds or organisation.

The dinner had one unusual aspect. There was no speech from Pete Wilson himself, only three words at the end of the evening: "We're gonna win." Pete Wilson is temporarily handicapped as a campaigner since a minor operation on his vocal chords, and his doctors have ordered him to stay silent. His campaign speech was delivered for him by his wife, Gail, and was so well delivered that it positively seemed an advantage. She is a far greater campaign asset for Governor Wilson than Hillary would be for Bill Clinton, even if Hillary has not actually become a liability.

Governor Wilson is known for the success of his election campaigns. He emphasises a small number of themes that have strong public support. His wife's speech stressed his experience as Governor — "others talk, he acts" — his toughness on crime, his toughness on illegal immigration, but also his concern for education, and his pragmatic "common sense and fairness" approach.

Two of the three Republican candidates, Mr Wilson and Mr Dole, are men of the Centre Right: Mr Gramm is the candidate of the Right itself. His trouble is that people do not like him. His colleagues do not like him in the Senate, and voters do not like him on television. A large number of Republicans like his conservative views, but he sounds, and looks, like a curmudgeon. If his lack of personal appeal rules him out, and I have found not a single Republican who warms to him as an individual, the race will be between Mr Clinton and Mr Wilson. Mr Dole has more seniority; indeed he is ten years older. The Senate has not produced a Republican candidate for the presidency in modern times, whereas there have been many governors. When Gail Wilson said that her husband is "the candidate who can beat Bill Clinton ... the Republican candidate the White House fears most", there was strong applause.

A number of factors could stop Mr Wilson being nominated. His voice could cause difficulties, although he would not be running if medical advice was not positive. Mr Dole's seniority and his current lead in the polls could see him through the primaries. General Colin Powell could enter the race — nobody knows what his intentions are, or even what his party is. The "right to life movement" might make Governor Wilson's relatively "pro-choice" position completely untenable.

Many Republicans would probably prefer a more ideological and less pragmatic candidate. But he has some key assets: he has been a strong Governor, he is an open-market conservative, a successful campaigner, an able man and he does not come from Washington. The odds look as good as a presidential candidate ever enjoys at this stage. Mr Wilson probably now has a better than even chance of beating Mr Dole for the nomination. If nominated, Mr Wilson has a better than even chance of beating Mr Clinton in 1996.

The Oklahoma bomb will still be remembered in November 1996, but it will no longer have any immediate political impact. It has, however, come at a psychological moment. It has made a challenge to Mr Clinton in the Democratic primaries less likely, unless there is a really sensational Arkansas indictment. It has shattered the complacency of the Republicans after their victories of last November. It has, in a strange way, reminded Republican voters of their distrust of Washington. It has weakened the more extreme conservative groups.

The early summer of the previous year is often the period when the attitudes shown in the primaries begin to fall. Oklahoma has made it rather more likely that those attitudes among Democrats will favour Bill Clinton, and among Republicans that they will favour Pete Wilson.

Time to set town halls free

Give councils autonomy, says Graham Mather

Today's local elections should be about local councillors and local issues. Yet anyone who has been on the doorstep during the campaign knows how hard it has been to give the local questions a look-in against matters which are the province of central government.

It is not just a problem of the media. Britain's body politic does not treat local government seriously. In recent years local government has had a few prominent figures who play a part in national life; it has been engaged in a complete reconstruction of its management systems; and it has been subject to yet another attempt to redesign its boundaries.

But, above all, the grip of central government on local decisions and the way they are financed has tightened without any sign that Whitehall understands that local government can work only if it is truly local, rather than directed, second-guessed and financed like a provincial outpost of the Environment Department.

The time has come, across the political divide, to reassert the value of a truly decentralised local government system. It is no longer good enough to treat local government as if it was unreformed, inefficient and incapable of being trusted.

Since the 1980s, compulsory competitive tendering has made many local authorities more efficient than central government departments, which are struggling to catch up with modern management practices well established in many local authorities. The very success of these reforms means that Whitehall's grip can now safely be loosened.

Nobody who believes in local financial accountability can continue indefinitely to support capping. Nobody in favour of strong local council links with business can be enthusiastic about a nationalised uniform business rate. Nobody who favours decentralisation can approve of Whitehall's massively over-complicated system of standard spending assessments.

This is clearly the time to decide why local government is important and to develop policies that strengthen localism against an over-mighty Whitehall. And Britain can no longer afford to give the impression that while it preaches subsidiarity in Europe a diet of unremitting centralism is the practice at home.

A coherent policy approach would recognise that if competition, experimentation, choice and responsibility are good doctrines for the economy they should be good doctrines for local government too. This would mean a reaffirmation of a philosophical approach that values local government. Local government must be seen to have a unique role as the democratically elected body at the heart of its local community.

It is time, too, to endorse local government as a counterbalance against the dangers of centralisation and uniformity stemming from Whitehall. Differences in local service patterns should be encouraged and local government hailed as a valuable force for choice and change.

The quangos present central government with a particular challenge. There can be little question that removing the ability of local authorities to mix politicised decision-taking with over-expanded service provision was right. In education, health and elsewhere, the new systems deliver services better. Yet this does not mean there is no role at all for elected councils in these fields. It is time to encourage local authorities to fill democratic deficits in their areas. If quangos seem out of touch with local wishes, councils should be encouraged to fill the gap. They can be valuable forums for local concerns.

This cannot be achieved in a system where, as in 1993-94, local taxation accounted for only 20 per cent of local-authority income, with reallocated uniform business rate constituting 28 per cent, specific grants 11 per cent and revenue-support grant 41 per cent. It gives central government — any central government — too much grip on local decisions. It turns councils into supplicants for reallocated cash, rather than responsible bodies raising in their own communities finance which will be deployed locally.

There would be widespread support for denationalising the business rate and reconnecting local authorities with the concerns of their business communities. A locally determined business rate would be an important step back towards local financial autonomy. Then it would make sense to phase out capping and to phase down the complexities of the standard spending assessment and central government grant systems.

A new generation of local government leaders has rid most local councils of the shortcomings of the 1970s. The next step should be to hand back more financial responsibility. If the centre shows it is prepared to take local government seriously, local council elections will once more focus on the policies, performance and delivery of local rather than central government.

● *The author is the Conservative MEP for Hampshire North and Oxford, and a Vice-President of the Association of District Councils.*

Victory vintage

WHETHER Sir Winston Churchill would turn in his grave over the furore about his archives is arguable. But he would most definitely smile warmly over his clan's gathering at London's Guildhall next Tuesday. For MPs Winston Churchill and Nicholas Soames, Lady Soames, Marina Churchill *et al* will sluice back a special Sir Winston vintage champagne created in his honour.

It is, of course, a Pol Roger — the *only* drink of which Sir Winston truly approved. In this case the *cuvée* is made from the very excellent 1986 harvest. Such was Sir Winston's devotion that he named a racehorse Pol Roger. At the champagne house's Epernay HQ they like to boast of the late PM's creed of being easily satisfied because he liked only the best.

Recently Pol Roger were shaken by scurrilous tales that our Embassy in Paris had lapsed its habit of serving only their champagne — a tradition started by Lord Soames when he became Ambassador in 1969. Bollinger had been spotted on the stately premises, it was alleged, during the tenure of the present Ambassador, Sir Christopher Mallaby, whose brother is an agent for the rival champagne house.

"No. We only stock Pol Roger," sniffs an embassy spokeswoman. "But if a commercial organisation holds a function here, it can serve what it likes." Pol Roger's man in England, Bill Gunn, is reassured: "I am happy to hear it is not true. Sir Christopher has been extremely diplomatic in continuing the tradition."



Sir Winston's tipple

● *Addressing Westminster journalists at the Press Gallery lunch yesterday, Social Security Secretary Peter Lilley could not resist a dig at one of their number. "The Guardian is the paper which put the 'w' into Ritz," he quipped.*

Royal store

TO SHOPPERS in the tiny Co-op in Lochgilphead, Argyll, there was something familiar about the couple from out-of-town. Casually dressed in jeans and sweat shirts, they filled a trolley with groceries while shadowed by a strapping fellow who looked like he wouldn't take any messing. Of course, it was the Princess Royal and that nice Commander Tim Laurence with detective in tow.

They were on their yacht *The Blue Doubler*. "It was a surprise because they've never been in before," says the shop manager, Albert Hasson. "They didn't give any warning, just appeared and did a full shop, fruit, vegetables, dairy products, everything. The young lad on the till was a little taken aback, but tried not to show it."

Spoils of war

SMART FOOTWORK by Lord Cranborne, currently masterminding VE-Day events so brilliantly, will ensure that the Royal British Legion receives proceeds from the sale of *One Family's War*, Lady Mayhew's collection of her family's wartime correspondence.

When Lady Mayhew's stepson, former minister Lord Mayhew, approached Cranborne for advice on a suitable charity to gain from the book sales, he instantly suggested the ex-Service organisation. Her ladyship, slightly deaf at 97 but still thrashing Lord Mayhew at Scrabble, declares: "I am delighted — and I am most grateful to Lord Cranborne."

In spite of his lordly duties, Cranborne is in the middle of reading the book. "It is wholly absorbing, quite apart from the 'feel'. I loved the padre's talk before the end of the phoney war." Lord Mayhew's pacifist brother, Pat, was told by the said padre that a Bible helped the Chamberlain Cabinet to make *all* its strategic decisions.

Stone turned

A VERY early Rolling Stones recording, *circa* 1961, was played for the first time in public yesterday at Christie's South Kensington. As teenagers, Mick Jagger and Keith Richards held jamming sessions at home which were taped by a friend from Dartford Grammar School. Rootling around his attic, he came across the tape, estimated to fetch up to £50,000.

The vendor, who wishes to remain anonymous, offered interesting insights into the young Jagger. "Mick was always flamboyant at school. He was well known for stretching the rules about uniform to the absolute limit. And his temper could be nasty at times if you got on the wrong side of him." He added proudly, "I was in the school choir — but Mick wasn't."

New star

VISCOUNT SLIM, son of the wartime Burma commander and President of the Burma Star Association, has much to celebrate this weekend. In addition to the VE-Day events he helped to organise,



Harriet and her son Rufus

he has just become a grandfather.

Mark, his heir, and his wife, actress Harriet Harrison, are the proud parents of Rufus William Rawdon, who will one day himself inherit the title. The family is planning a proper party after the weekend events.

Asked if her offspring had been named after the heart-throb Rufus Sewell, with whom Harriet starred in the original National Theatre production of Tom Stoppard's *Arcadia*, she smiles wickedly: "He might have been."

P·H·S

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PITY THE POOR TORY

The unenviable choice facing Conservatives today

Better to be a traffic warden than a Tory candidate for today's local elections — or so thousands of battered politicians in England and Wales must think this morning. So bad was their reception on the doorstep that many would-be Tory councillors decided to add to their party's losses in advance by discarding their affiliation. Those who remained Conservative had to plead with ministers to stay away for fear of reminding voters of division and sleaze. Yet even those who kept ministers off their streets could not keep them out of the headlines.

The candidates are surely right to blame the Government for the pasting that they are likely to receive. By any precedent, the Tories' position in the polls should have improved by now. Every few months, the recovery was heralded: but barely a day of good news went by without another example of hesitancy, incompetence, arrogance or drift. The twin embarrassments of sterling's exit from the ERM and the breaking of tax promises were enough to send Tory support spiralling down in 1992. But voters would be feeling warmer towards the Government by now if ministers and backbenchers had not exacerbated their party's unpopularity by seeming to seek out political trouble.

To too many of their own side, it seems as if the party has lost the will to govern. Every so often, Downing Street announces the appointment of a new "minister for banana skins". What do they do all day? On Tuesday this week *The Times* revealed a Social Security Minister's decree that insurance payouts on mortgage interest for the sick and unemployed would from now on be taxable. Such a move surely deserved the "banana skin attention" from a party that counts on the backing of homeowners and wants to mitigate job insecurity. Instead, ministers spent the morning either denying or displaying ignorance of it. This allowed Tony Blair to scoff at the shambles at Question Time. By the evening, Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, seemed to contradict his own Prime Minister's version of events. Any local Tory tasked with winning votes today might reasonably ask why ministers could not have agreed a line within an hour or so of hearing about the story on Monday night.

While the Opposition is feasting on ministers' mistakes, the Government is struggling to fight back. Last Saturday, for instance, John Prescott, Labour's deputy leader, promised to end compulsory competitive tendering, a Tory policy which has great popular appeal for overburdened council taxpayers. This ran directly counter to Mr Blair's claim that Labour is now the party of the consumer, not the producer. Even new Labour, it seems, favours the dustman over the resident. Ministers have failed to deliver this point with the force required in these unpropitious times.

It is hard not to feel some sympathy for John Major. Already he is preparing to defend himself against a possible leadership challenge. Members of the supposedly independent backbenchers' 1922 Committee have threatened to publicise the names of MPs who sign a round robin calling for a leadership election. But MPs are likely to come under intense pressure this weekend from local activists; and many will be contemplating their own job insecurity. Opinion is divided on the impact of a change of leader: but one recent poll for the stockbrokers James Capel showed that replacing the leader would be far more likely to bring wavering Tories back than would tax cuts, greater unity or clearer policies.

How should these wavering Tories feel about supporting the party today? Those who are determined to vote on local issues may be able to swallow their larger worries and put a cross in the traditional box. Others will want to punish the Government. Some of these will be hoping that a disastrous result tonight will precipitate a new leader. But they cannot even be sure of that. They might end up with the worst of both worlds: an extravagant Labour council and the same old struggling Government at Westminster. That would be a true double whammy.

CROATIAN SKIRMISH

For once, Balkan matters are not as bad as they look

The international reaction to the fighting in Croatia this week suggests that hysteria and hypocrisy are no longer the monopoly of the combatants in former Yugoslavia. Even if one of the Serbian rockets which hit Zagreb landed too close for comfort to the American Embassy, this was not the shot that echoed round the world. The US Ambassador announced that "we face the prospect of the biggest war in Europe for 50 years". So we may: but it is no closer this week than last. His words tell more about frayed nerves since the end of the ceasefire in Bosnia than about military and political balance in Croatia.

The truth is more prosaic. The Croatian objective was to seize back control of Western Slavonia, a small finger of Serb-held land which it already surrounded on three sides. The pocket is important principally because the E70 Zagreb-Belgrade motorway, an economic lifeline between the Croatian capital and its eastern provinces, runs through it. Last December, under an agreement between the Croatian Government and the secessionist Krajina Serbs to restore a number of utilities and rebuild some economic links, this road was reopened for the first time since fighting began in 1991. At the weekend, after a couple of minor incidents for which the blame is unclear, the Serbs closed it again.

The Croatian reaction was predictable; the only surprise lay in the efficiency of the operation. For Croatia, the UN's failure to keep this road open has been a symbol of its failure to fulfil its mandate to restore normal civilian life and permit the return of refugees to their homes. Had the route remained closed, one of the few small steps towards peace that mediators have so far managed to broker would have been halted.

The UN was promised an immediate cessation of hostilities yesterday. Although neither irrationality nor duplicity can ever be discounted in the republics of former Yugoslavia, there are pragmatic reasons why this should hold. The Serb battering of Zagreb indicated military weakness, not strength; the Croatian capital is far from becoming the next Sarajevo. Equally, there is no clear reason to doubt President Tudjman's statement that he plans no further military action and remains committed to the "policy of peaceful reintegration" urged on him by the UN.

The Croatian President gambled that the Serbs would not be capable of a counter-attack in Western Slavonia without backing from Serbia itself. Slobodan Milosevic has kept silence. But Mr Tudjman also knows that Croatia is not strong enough to grab back the rest of the territory held by the Krajina Serbs. Besides, the economic co-operation agreement currently being considered by the European Union is popular with Croatians; it is not in Mr Tudjman's interest to cause negotiations to abort. Douglas Hurd will find Mr Tudjman to be a man of honeyed reason when he arrives in London this weekend as a somewhat incongruous co-celebrant of the end of war in Europe.

Of more serious strategic, if not human, import than the dramas in Croatia is the mounting evidence that the five-power Contact Group has run out of ideas and goodwill in about equal measure. Yesterday its officials met in London and failed even to set a date for ministers to assemble. Mr Hurd says the focus should now be on Serbian recognition of Bosnia, as part of an overall settlement for the former Yugoslav republics. Yet he seems to think that the immediate priority is a new Bosnian ceasefire. He has been stumbling through these thickets for so long that he seems to have forgotten that ceasefires will always collapse if they offer no route to lasting peace. That is the map that now needs to be redrawn.

NESSUN DORMA

The Neighbour's Opera triumphs at Garsington Manor

The history of bucolic England is not strewn with legal tussles about opera. Rural English quarrels which reach the courts might more normally involve hale white-flannelled men who occasionally belt hard cricket balls into the back garden of a local killjoy. Yet precisely a year after a judge in Slough found routinely for outdoor games and Jordans Village Cricket Club, a judge in Oxford has ruled sagely in favour of outdoor opera and its practice at Garsington Manor.

Judge Keith Wilson-Mellor, QC, deserves at least to have an opera composed in his honour: would not *I Giudici* be a fitting tribute? And what better place to perform it than at Garsington Manor, scene and source of a depressing dispute between the Manor's Leonard Ingrams and a handful of neighbours who would prefer their silence to the lilt of his operas.

While the disagreement could have generated an elegant debate about the nature and meaning of "noise", "sound" and "music", it has provoked instead a considerable quantity of cant. Critics of opera at Garsington Manor wasted no time in sneering that had Mr Ingrams and his wife Rosalind elected to stage outdoor rock concerts or "gigs", the complaints made by neighbours robbed of their sleep would have been regarded widely as being in the public interest. This, however, is the poorest of arguments, since it fails to make the essential distinction between that music which is appropriate for Garsington and that which is not.

To put it another way: outdoor opera in a balmy rural *milieu* cannot be compared with "Thrash metal" concerts at Garsington which, for example, would unquestionably be a nuisance to neighbours. Imagine the effect on those who slept near by (not to mention the rural ecosystem) of a concert by Sepultura or Megadeath; or of Ozzy Osborne biting off the heads of bats in the course of an ear-splitting night. Opera, however, is a different *genre*. The nearest that Mr Ingrams will ever get to bats is *Die Fledermaus* — and as we all know, there are no bats in that opera anyway.

Since the admirable judge has quashed an earlier ruling by magistrates which had found Mr Ingrams guilty of making too much noise, operagoers need worry no longer for the first night of *La Cenerentola* in June. Cinderella can now plead for "just one hour in the Prince's palace" without fear of intrusion by the South Oxfordshire District Council.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Changing the law in divorce cases

From Professor Brenda Almond

Sir, The philosopher Kant pointed out that to make a promise, at the same time intending not to keep it if that should turn out to be convenient, was not merely bad morality: it was actually in the end impossible, since it would be to negate the nature of the institution of promising. Paradoxically, perhaps, you have to have the concept of an unbreakable promise in order to be able to break a promise.

The same applies to marriage. It is not a question of whether we think the proposed new divorce rules are compassionate, or helpful, or better than manufacturing proof of "fault" [reports, April 27, 28]. It is rather a matter of whether there is any longer a recognisable line between living together for a mutually acceptable period, and marrying.

I would suggest that with "no fault" divorce without consent there is not. The new situation is one in which everyone will be on probation for the duration of their relationship. This in itself is enough to impose an intolerable strain on relationships.

The *de facto* abolition of marriage has already progressed through such linguistic moves as the change of name of the former Marriage Guidance Council to Relate, and the increasing use of the terminology of "partners" — implying the temporary and voluntary — in place of the permanent role-names of "husband" and "wife".

The new proposals mean that it will become in effect impossible to marry, if by that one means to commit oneself to a lifetime or even a fixed-term relationship with another person. Even those radicals who in the Twenties and Thirties boldly proposed "trial marriages" might be taken aback to find no non-trial marriage for successful experimenters to progress to.

Yours sincerely,
BRENDA ALMOND,
The University of Hull,
Department of Philosophy,
Hull HU6 7RX.
April 27.

From Mrs Carol Martin-Sperry

Sir, In discussing the White Paper on divorce it is important that we do not confuse mediation with counselling.

Mediation is a process to help couples who are separating to negotiate decisions about practical issues such as childcare, housing and money. Counselling is a process to help couples, who may or may not be separating, to communicate, and work towards change in their relationship.

The former is about facts, the latter is about feelings. Both are relevant to divorce.

Yours faithfully,
CAROL MARTIN-SPERRY
(Founder, London Marriage Guidance Counsellors Association),
28 Arminger Road,
Shepherds Bush, W12.
April 27.

From Ms Valerie Mairants

Sir, As a barrister and recorder (now retired) I had dealings with countless divorce cases and their consequences.

In many cases, one party to a marriage has suffered extreme physical and mental anguish while the other party is quite content to continue inflicting it. The typical case is a women with a violent, perhaps drunken husband. She may decide that she can no longer live in such a marriage, but her husband will do nothing to co-operate in obtaining a divorce.

Mediation is a wonderful institution for parties who are reasonable and want to reach agreement, but useless for anybody whose spouse is determined to prevent or delay the divorce.

Unreasonable behaviour in marriage does not stop when proceedings are instituted — it is more likely to be intensified. Care should be taken not to penalise genuinely aggrieved petitioners by refusing decrees unless their spouses have attended for mediation.

Yours faithfully,
VALERIE MAIRANTS,
64 Gurney Drive,
Hampstead Garden Suburb, N2.
April 27.

Pot shots

From Mr P. J. Thompson

Sir, Stephen Hendry is reported (May 1) to have earned £353,000 in total prize money, together with a Ferrari, for his performance at this year's Embassy world snooker championship. It would take Cedric Brown almost a full year at the helm of one of the UK's leading industrial concerns to generate similar remuneration for himself.

Should Mr Hendry now expect an urgent invitation to justify his good fortune to Greville Janner's Employment Select Committee, or is the pleasure of explaining the relationship between effort, talent, luck and financial reward to be restricted solely to senior executives of privatised utilities?

Yours faithfully,
P. J. THOMPSON,
The Mill House, Windmill Hill,
Chipperfield, Hertfordshire.
May 1.

Sports letters, page 43

VE-Day commemoration puts nation in reflective mood

From Lieutenant-Colonel D. O. O'Leary (retd)

Sir, I understand that an address by both Houses of Parliament is to be presented to Her Majesty the Queen on May 5 in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the Allied victory in Europe.

Many of us who served in the Indian Armed Forces until the end of World War II in August 1945 will think it a pity if the Government does not take the opportunity of this address to acknowledge the part played by Indian and (now Pakistani) and Gurkha troops, 2.5 million of whom served the British Crown, sustaining 97,000 casualties and winning 30 Victoria Crosses (letter, May 19, 1994).

The Government should take this opportunity to acknowledge publicly the unique and unequalled generosity and loyalty of His late Majesty the King of Nepal, who put the whole of his small country's Armed Forces and resources at the disposal of this country with the words: "Does a friend desert a friend in time of need? If you win we win with you; if you lose we lose with you." This was said when we stood alone after the fall of France.

Yours faithfully,
D. O. O'LEARY,
Oak Tree Cottage,
Lynford, Thetford, Norfolk.
May 2.

From Sir Bryan Thwaites

Sir, For a few utterly unforgettable moments I was within about four feet of Winston Churchill as he progressed between Whitehall and Westminster on VE-Day. The intense pressure of the million-strong throng is equally unforgettable, as is the fact that no police control was deemed necessary.

By contrast, you report (News in Brief, May 2) that "about 3,600 uniformed officers ... and hundreds of plainclothes and specialist officers will guard dignitaries" during this weekend's celebrations in London.

Fifty years on, therefore, we may be safer from war; but are we more civilised?

Yours faithfully,
BRYAN THWAITES,
Milnthorpe,
Winchester, Hampshire.
May 2.

From Mr Thomas J. Smith, MM

Sir, Regarding your report (April 28) on the execution of Mussolini, I was a member of a Special Operations Executive (SOE) mission that was parachuted into Milan on April 28, 1945. The first radio message we received from SOE HQ in Siena informed us that Mussolini had been captured by the partisans and that we should try to get him handed over to the Allied military authorities.

We were unable to do so because he had probably already been executed and his body was in any event shortly afterwards displayed at a filling station near the house containing our unit.

It seems unlikely that Allied HQ depended on information from *The Times* journalists concerning the execution, and the mission instructions throw doubt on theories that it was carried out by British agents.

Yours faithfully,
T. J. SMITH,
14 Millsmead Way, Loughton, Essex.
May 1.

From Mrs Ann G. McMullan

Sir, I hope that Mrs Teresa Tutt (report and photograph, April 25) will wear her late husband's medals with pride on VE-Day and that all other war widows will, if possible, do so, wherever they are.

I hope, too, that all men and women who served in the Second World War will do likewise so that the young may be reminded that their lives might be very different had their grandparents not "done their bit".

I am, Sir, yours truly,
ANN G. McMULLAN
(Section Officer, WAAF, 1941-45),
14 Valiant House,
Vicarage Crescent, SW11.
May 1.

From Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Porter (retd)

Sir, German forces in northern Europe surrendered on May 4, 1945. Two days earlier German forces in Italy and Austria had surrendered to Field Marshal Alexander's armies. This was a notable achievement after the wasteful diversion of substantial resources for the landings in the south of France.

Most survivors, civilians and servicemen, of whatever nationality, who suffered during the hard, two-year Italian campaign will surely remember May 2 as the anniversary of the end of their war.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT PORTER,
2b Flitwick Road,
Maulden, Bedfordshire.
May 2.

From Dr Jesper Trier

Sir, I shall never forget the excitement and happiness when the British soldiers arrived in Copenhagen 50 years ago.

We are many here who feel that we have not really been able to express our deep gratitude to all those Britons, both at home and abroad, who fought the Nazi tyranny so courageously.

Yours sincerely,
JESPER TRIER,
Fulden Byvej 26,
8330 Beder, Denmark.
April 28.

From Mr Sidney C. Renow

Sir, Last year, whilst visiting the Wigram RNZAF museum in Christchurch, New Zealand, I saw displayed the following verse, written by an R. W. Gilbert. Its poignant sentiment is, I feel, appropriate to the VE-Day commemoration:

My brief sweet life is over, my eyes
no longer see.
No summer walks — no Christmas trees —
no pretty girls for me.
I've got the chop. I've had it.
My nightly ops are done.
Yes in another hundred years I'll
still be twenty-one.

Yours sincerely,
S. C. RENOW,
27 Common Road,
Claygate, Esher, Surrey.
April 30.

From Mr Philip R. Noakes

Sir, I shall not be celebrating the VE-Day anniversary in any formal way — my medals and decorations were all stolen by some peacetime heroes — but I shall simply stand in silence in memory of my old friends and fellow *soldiers*.

I shall also try to restore my sense of proportion for the occasion by recalling the response of my colonel when I reported the news to him in his tank outside Lübeck.

"Good", he said, and as an afterthought added: "At least we'll be able to get white bread again."

Yours sincerely,
PHILIP R. NOAKES,
Little St Mary's, St Mary's Lane,
Uplyme, Lyme Regis, Dorset.
May 1.

From Mr Mike Gigg

Sir, I am very grateful for the helpful notes included in your list (May 2) of VE-Day commemorative events, without which I would not have known that the luncheon to be hosted by the Queen at Buckingham Palace for visiting heads of state was *by invitation only*.

I had planned to call in for a bite to eat after some sightseeing in town. Your timely warning has saved me, and I'm sure many others, a wasted journey.

Yours faithfully,
MIKE GIGG,
53 Montefiore Road,
Hove, East Sussex.

From Mr K. C. Sharon

Sir, Perhaps it would be appropriate to issue an inclement weather alert along the following lines for Monday, May 8: "The whole country will be enveloped in a cloud of hot air and impenetrable myths, accompanied by frequent and prolonged outbursts of clichés."

Yours faithfully,
K. C. SHARON,
7a Lennard Road, SE20.

Commuter 'bonhomie'

From Mr Michael J. Ferraro

Sir, Tony Goldman (letter, April 27) obviously commutes on the wrong line. *Bonhomie* among the regulars may be rare, but it does occur, as an *intruding* (his word, not mine) French couple found on the 7.45 from Amersham some years ago.

They were presented with a glass of champagne each, the occasion being a party to bid farewell to one of the regulars.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL J. FERRARO,
Ecclesburn,
47 Copperkins Lane,
Amersham, Buckinghamshire.
May 1.

Single currency

From Mr L. W. Jiggins

Sir, Has Mr Anthony Carter (letter, April 25) really examined *his* £1 coins? He appears to confuse the flax plant (Northern Ireland) with English roses and omitted the oak tree (England). The rose appears on the 20p piece.

Yours faithfully,
L. W. JIGGINS,
125 Essex Road, Romford, Essex.
April 26.

Nurses' pay

From Mrs Jennifer Thomas

Sir, As one who has never tolerated strike action and believes that reasoned argument and debate is the best way to achieve pay settlements, I now find myself applauding the decision of the leaders of the Royal College of Nursing to call for an end to its no-strike policy (report, April 28). I am sure they will be supported by their colleagues.

Local pay bargaining for nurses and doctors is simply not acceptable; they should be paid according to the job they do, not according to how much their employing trust can afford.

My daughter is a staff nurse in a busy intensive care unit. She and her colleagues work long, hard hours, usually in extremely stressful circumstances; they are dedicated professionals who would never wish to do anything which put their patients at risk.

I am embarrassed that as a local government officer I earn more than she. Is it too much to ask that she is valued and respected by the Government, as she is by her patients?

Yours faithfully,
JENNIFER THOMAS,
30 Jerome Close, Eastbourne, Sussex.
May 1.

Automatic dialling

From the Group Managing Director, BT

Sir, If only life were as simple as Mr Weston suggests (letter, May 1) and BT could simply correct misdialled calls automatically. The extra "1" is, as he says, always in the same place — at the moment. The Oftel plan is based on eventually having 2s, 3s, 4s, etc. after the initial 0, thus hugely increasing the available number combinations.

Even our world-leading computer system can't yet read customers' minds, although our research scientists are working on it! We all simply have to get used to the "one to remember".

Yours faithfully,
M. L. HEPHER,
Group Managing Director, BT,
BT Centre,
81 Newgate Street, EC1.
May 1.

Setting an example

From the Deputy Director General of the Health and Safety Executive

Sir, Your correspondent Adam Johnson (April 29) is wrong. I was sitting on my bicycle, not cycling, on the pavement. I share his distaste for pavement riders.

I did a risk analysis. Being photographed stationary on the pavement risks a *Times* correspondence. Ditto on the road risks a squashed *Times* photographer. Which is the greater evil?

Yours etc,
JENNY BACON,
Deputy Director General,
Health and Safety Executive,
Rose Court, 2 Southwark Bridge, SE1.
May 1.

Personal anathemas

From Sir Peter Millett

Sir, Parsnips, Brahms and the French? Mr Harris (letter, May 2) is obviously an insular, Euro-sceptic, xenophobic bigot. What is wrong with parsnips?

Yours faithfully,
P. J. MILLETT,
18 Portman Close, W1.
May 2.

Serbia-Bosnia border

From the Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs

Sir, Professor Adrian Hastings (letter, April 28) says that the international community has been duped by President Milosevic into believing that he has sealed his border with the Bosnian Serbs.

To ensure independent verification of the border closure to all but humanitarian goods, Lord Owen and Mr Stoltenberg — the co-chairmen of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia — established a mission on the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY) in September 1994. Observers are drawn from a broad spectrum of countries including the UK and other countries in the EU, the United States, Canada and Russia. Since that time, the mission has consistently reported that the border is effectively sealed and that co-operation with the Belgrade authorities is good.

The observer mission has asked that states should notify it of any reports of border violations so that these can be checked. The UK is concerned about indications from radar picked up by UN airfield monitors working near Belgrade of helicopters crossing the border from Bosnian territory. We are contributing experts to a new task force to establish the facts. The level of compliance with the border closure can only be judged on the basis of hard evidence.

President Milosevic's decision to close the border in August 1994 and his support for the Contact Group for Bosnia have been important steps in support of the peace process. The UN Security Council has responded by suspending some sanctions against the FRY. The Contact Group has made clear to President Milosevic that further sanctions relief will only be possible if the FRY takes further steps and continues the border closure.

Meanwhile the British Government would like to see a strengthening of the observer mission. It has a difficult task in operating along a border which is some 500km long.

Yours etc,
DOUGLAS HOGG,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
Whitehall, SW1.
May 2.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 3: His Excellency Mr Benedikt Asgeirrson was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of Iceland to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following member of the Embassy: Mr Jakob Magnüsson (First Secretary).

Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) was present and the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

The Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia and Mrs Kinley were received by Her Majesty.

Mr Justice Smedley was received by The Queen upon his appointment as a Justice of the High Court when Her Majesty conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the insignia of a Knight Bachelor.

Wing Commander Neil Thurston was received by The Queen upon relinquishing his appointment as Commanding Officer of The Queen's Flight upon its disbandment.

Her Majesty, Visitor, the Royal College of Surgeons of England, this evening attended a Reception given by the College and the Worshipful Company of Barbers and was received at the Mansion House by the Rt Hon the Lord Mayor (Alderman Christopher Walford), the President, Royal College of Surgeons (Professor Norman Browse) and the Master, Worshipful Company of Barbers (Mr Ronald Simmons).

The Lady Susan Hussey, Mr Simon Gimson and Major James Patrick were in attendance.

By Command of The Queen, the Baroness Trumpington (Baroness in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport London this afternoon upon the Arrival of Princess Benedikte of Denmark and welcomed Her Royal Highness on behalf of Her Majesty.

By Command of The Queen, the Baroness Trumpington (Baroness in Waiting) was present at Royal Air Force Northolt this evening upon the Arrival of The Crown Prince of Belgium and welcomed His Royal Highness on behalf of Her Majesty.

By Command of The Queen, the Baroness Trumpington (Baroness in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London, later upon the Arrival of The President of the Republic of Hungary and Mrs Göncz and welcomed His Excellency and Mrs Göncz on behalf of Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
May 3: The Princess Royal, President, Animal Health Trust, this morning attended the Annual General Meeting of the Council of Management followed by Luncheon at the Kennel Club, Clarges Street, London W1.

Lady Carew Pole was in attendance.

Her Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Logistic Corps, this afternoon received Major General David Botting upon relinquishing his appointment as Representative Colonel Commandant and Major General John MacDonald upon assuming the appointment.

The Princess Royal, Master, the Worshipful Company of Woolmen, this evening attended the Installation Court Meeting and Dinner at Painters' Hall, Little Trinity Lane, London EC4.

Mrs Malcolm Innes was in attendance.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
May 3: The Prince of Wales this morning laid Wreaths at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemetery and the Civilian War Cemetery, Ohlsdorf.

His Royal Highness later attended the State Ceremony in Rathausmarkt to commemorate the fiftieth Anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Hamburg.

The Prince of Wales this afternoon arrived at Royal Air Force Lyneham from Germany.

Mr Stephen Lamport and Mr Allen Percival were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 3: The Princess of Wales this afternoon attended a Luncheon with members of the Worshipful Company of Merchant Taylors at Merchant Taylors' Hall, Threadneedle Street, London EC2.

Mrs Max Pike was in anendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
May 3: The Duke of Gloucester, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Logistic Corps, this morning received Major General David Botting on relinquishing the appointment of Representative Colonel Commandant and Major General John MacDonald on assuming the appointment.

The Duke of Gloucester this afternoon attended the London Launch of the Gloucestershire Development Agency at Nuclear Electric, Pall Mall, London SW1.

Major Nicholas Barne was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester, President, General Welfare of the Blind, this afternoon visited GWB Products, Bilton Way, Luton, Bedfordshire, and was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Bedfordshire (Mr Samuel Whitbread).

Mrs Howard Page was in attendance.

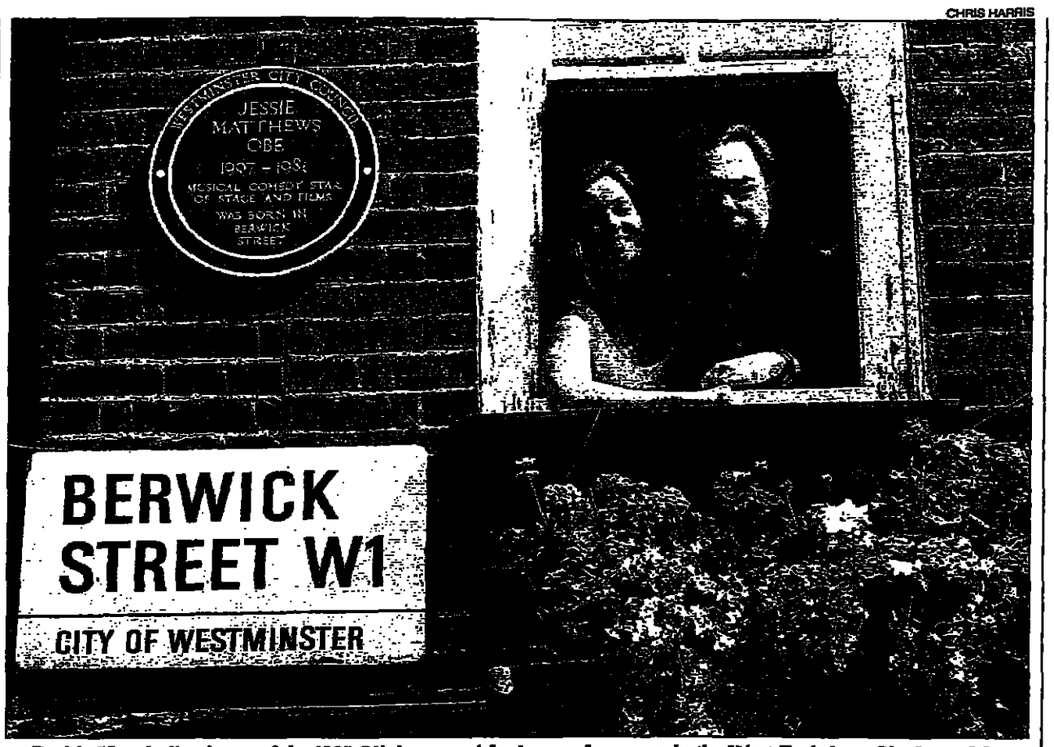
YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
May 3: The Duke of Kent this afternoon attended a reception marking the 50th Anniversary of the Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum, Princes Gate, London SW7.

Mr Nicolas Adamson was in attendance.

The Duchess of Kent, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, the Royal Logistic Corps, this afternoon received Major General David Botting, Representative Colonel Commandant, on relinquishing the appointment and Major General John MacDonald on assuming the appointment.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
May 3: Princess Alexandra, President, this afternoon attended the Annual General Court of the Royal Humane Society at Haberdashers' Hall, Staining Lane, London EC2.

The Lady Nicholas Gordon Lennox was in attendance.



CHRIS HARRIS

Ruthie Henshall, winner of the 1995 Olivier award for her performance in the West End show *She Loves Me*, and the composer Andrew Lloyd Webber at Berwick Street, London, yesterday where a plaque was unveiled to the musical comedy star Jessie Matthews close to the place where she was born in 1907

Birthdays today

Mr Frith Banbury, theatrical director, 83; the Rev Professor C.K. Barrett, theologian, 78; Mr Michael Barrymore, entertainer, 43; Miss Joyce Blow, chairman, Authority of the Direct Marketing Association, 66; the Right Rev D. Farmbrough, former Bishop of Bedford, 66; Sir Stephen Hastings, former MP, 74; Sir David Hildyard, diplomat, 79; Mr Richard Hill, rugby player, 34; Mrs Jane Kennedy, MP, 37; the Hon Mark Lennox-Boyd, MP, 52; Sir Edward Pickering, executive vice-chairman, Times Newspapers, 83; Dr Sandy Macara, chairman of council, British Medical Association, 63; Professor Marisa Robles, harpist, 58; Mr Gennadi Rozhdestvensky, conductor, 64; Mr Edwin Russell, sculptor, 56; Mr Alexander Schouvaloff, former curator, Theatre Museum, 61; Professor Robin Sibson, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Kent at Canterbury, 51; Sir Norman Siddall, mining engineer, 77; Lord Stoddart of Swindon, 69; Mr Eric Sykes, comedian, 72; Miss Gillian Tindall, novelist and historian, 57; Mr John Watson, racing driver, 49; Professor Basil Yamey, economist, 76.

Receptions

Barbers' Company and Royal College of Surgeons of England
The Queen was the guest of honour at a reception given by the Barbers' Company and the Royal College of Surgeons of England last night at the Mansion House to mark the 250th anniversary of the Royal Assent to a bill which re-established the Barbers' Company and led to the formation of the Royal College of Surgeons of England. The Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their Ladies, received the guests.

Later Mr Ronald Simmons, Master, and Professor Sir Norman Browse, President, presided at a dinner and the Lord Mayor also spoke. Among those present were:

Lord and Lady Wolfson, the President of the Royal College of Physicians and Lady Turnberg, the President of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and Lady Shields, the Chief Medical Officer and Mrs Calman, the President of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow and Mrs MacKay, the President of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and Mrs Patel, the Master of the Ironmongers' Company and Mrs Edwards, the Master of the Cutlers' Company and Mrs Latham and the Commanding Officer of 257 (Southern) General Hospital (V) and Mrs Hamilton.

Guild of Freemen of the City of London
The Guild of Freemen of the City of London held a reception yesterday at Cutlers' Hall. Alderman Clive H. Martin, Master, and Mrs Martin, received the guests. Mr P.S. Hards, Beadle, was a speaker. Earlier the Master read the lesson and the Dean of St Paul's preached the sermon at the annual service held in the Crypt of St Paul's Cathedral.

Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply

Professional Qualification:
Diamond Jubilee Prize for the best overall performance: Lynne Cloughton. **Commendations:** Julia Ashley, Stephen Bates, David Eady, Teresa Ebbs, Nicholas Stanbury.

The Professional Qualification was also awarded to: Abernethy J H; Abrahams J; Ackers J M; Adam D L; Adams M W; Allcock D M; Allen R; Alps A M; Ambrose M J; Apostole L; Arendse A I; Arnold C P; Ashby K L; Ashcroft M G; Aspinall M J; Atkins R; Atkinson D J; Atkinson S R; Austin D; Aylward C R; Babra J S; Badger A S; Bagnall L; Bailey M G; Baillie A; Baker A J; Baker M; Barbour E A; Barnett D; Barson L J M; Bass G E; Baxter D W; Bayley J; Beaverstock A A; Belcher C; Bennett J W; Bentley L; Berriman A; Bird D R; Bishop R; Blackler P I; Blythe E A; Boateng S A; Boles A M; Bond D; Bones N G; Boodrie D C; Bottomley A J; Botwright R R; Bowen C A; Bracken E A; Bradley D; Bradley M L; Bradley-Cole T P; Brady F M; Briscoe B P; Bromhall M W; Brookes D; Brown C M; Brown J L; Brown P; Bungart S; Burgess V L; Burley J R; Burt J P; Bush J A; Bussell R G; Cameron C I; Campbell F M; Canning J P; Cappersaud D; Carnell J; Casey M; Charter M J; Chaudry S; Cheung D; Chinn J A; Choudhary M A; Christian J; Clarke D H; Clarke G A; Clayton H; Clinton S; Clowes N L; Cobbold S; Cockle H; Coleman M; Coles S; Collins C J; Collins M G; Collins P; Colliom G E; Compton M S; Cooke A J; Cooke G E; Coombe J K; Cooper A P; Cooper A M; Coulstock D G; Council R; Cowen S C; Cowmeadow A C; Cribb D M; Cross P J; Croucher J A; Cunliffe K A; Daily C R; Daniels H J A; Davidson P A; Davies G C; Davies J A; Davies P J; Davies R T; Dawson T A; Deed S G; Denman P W; Dennetty M J; Devoy K P; Dixon N R; Dixon S M; Dobson K C; Dollman P D; Dow D C; Dowker T K; Duff F; Duffy J; Dunn D B; Dunn G B D; Eady K V; Eaton D P; Edwards A F E; Eldridge P; Elkington M J; Elwen J R; Elworthy C J; Erwich K E; Esmond H D; Ethell S L; Evans D; Evans R G; Faller A P; Farrall R J; Farrell S M; Feil D P; Fell D S; Fernie M H; Firth G; Fisher C A; Fitzgibbon G; Fitzpatrick M T; Floyd S P; Flynn H E; Fordge P J; Forrester A E; Forrun L P; Fox T; Francis R C; Franks K C; Friend R C; Funnell J K; Galbusera-Butcher C; Gale D A; Gallon B M; Gargan J; Garraway J A; Gerrell V J; Gibson C J; Gillespie E L; Gifford-Bull M S; Gillitt K J; Gilsenan P G; Glennon A; Gossage S A; Graham B; Gran K; Graves E L; Gray D C; Gray S R; Grayson J; Green A; Greenlees P R; Greenwood A W; Gregory C; Grice R W; Griffin I J; Grifin M P; Gunning F M; Habben N D; Hambleton R C; Hamilton C I; Hamilton J G; Hammond M I; Hammond S L; Hannah G L; Hannam A; Hardman J D; Harrington R; Harris B R; Harris J S; Harriree L C; Harvey J C; Haskell K P; Hassall P A; Hastings L; Hatchard C; Hawkins G K; Hawkins J S; Hay V G O; Haywood-Biles C S; Hickman J N; Hickman K A; Higginson G C; Hill C A; Hill G E; Hill N; Hill P J; Hoggart J; Holall S S; Holding K M; Holland W P; Hollowell P A; Holmes E; Holmes S J; Hood A E; Hopkins J H; Horton M A; Howard M E; Huggins A C; Hughes D A; Hunt P M; Ibbotson M J; Ingram P; Innocent T J; Irwin M B; Jackson S A; Jacobs B J; James G; Jandaurla Y; Jarvis R; Jenkins R O J; Jennings D J; Johnstone C C; Jones J R; Jones J M; Jones M; Jones P C; Jones S R; Jones S C; Jones T S; Julian J E P; Karmel-Goold G J; Kasirye D; Kaye S L; Keighley P R; Kelly D V; Kendle J S; Kenna D J N; Kennedy S A; Kenrick G; Kenu K M D; Kerr I J; Kilkenny A; Kingscott A J; Kirby R J; Kostyra G J; Kuijpers V T; Laing D; Lakin R D; Lalanne B; Lamb B; Lambert S L; Lambert S M; Lambert W M; Lane R N J; Lang S J; Langley R M; Larkins W; Lawson E; Lawton A J; Leach R P; Leach G; Lean B J; Ledwidge A K; Lee D; Leigh J P; Lewis A H; Lewis D A; Liburd F J; Liggins D A; Lim S; Liszka A N; Little P G; Lloyd-Robert G; Lomas C A; Lonergan E T; Lowe C A; Lynch P J; Macdonald S W; Mackay K C; Magee C; Malone PJA; Maloney G C; Marsden B M; Marsh M; Martin E A; May C N; McCormick P; McCracken H M; McCrory C P; McEvoy D; McLaren V J; McMeekan P; Mccoy T F; Mceneaney K; Mcentee M R; Mead BJA; Mean P M; Medhurst J; Meredith S R; Mews S E; Milano G M P; Millard S J; Miller S L; Millington P; Mitchell I; Monckton J L; Monkman A W; Mooney P A; Moran L V; Morgan A J; Morgan P; Morris H F; Morris L J; Morris N J; Mottershaw C; Mould S A; Mseka C F; Muir J L; Mullender K R; Murphy J L; Murray F; Nash T; Neary B J; Neaves A B; Newman M J; Nicolson M M; Noah J; Nowicki P H; O'Brien J R; O'Brien N B; Oates P J; Odlowel S; Ogunji S O; Olding L A; Oliver A; Osborne A J; Owen A M; Owen J; Oxley C L; Packer R; Page S E; Palmer H; Parker D V; Parker M J; Paton S A; Pavey A C; Payne D J; Peacock A; Pearce G W; Pearce L M; Pearson P M; Pennack A R; Pennells P I; Peyton C S; Pick K; Pilling C D; Pitt N J; Pocock S J; Pottage A; Powell A; Powell G E J; Price A J A; Pryor H; Quarsah M; Raimbach P D; Ransome L D; Ratcliff J L; Reader D K A; Redfern R L; Reid L V; Rennick T A; Richardson B; Rickaby L; Rigby J; Ritchie N G; Roberts B E; Roberts P A; Roberts R E; Robertson J C; Robertson L; Robinson J E; Robson M I; Roche J P; Roche M J; Roddis J; Ross L C; Rowan J D; Rowe G; Rowe S W; Rowland M J; Rowlands C A; Rudd K J; Rumble M; Russell R C; Ryan P W; Sargent S J; Savage P D; Scarlen C A M; Self J P; Selley C E; Sharp J M; Sharp S E; Sharran M A; Shaw I F; Shepherd R J; Shilpsetter C; Shute R D; Silcock D J; Simkin D W; Simmons M; Simpson J D; Skilling M; Skinner F C; Skyner A; Smith A V M; Smith D B; Smith J A; Smith K M; Smith M N; Smith P; Smith R I; Smith R C; Smith S C; Smith S T; Smyth A M; Soper S I; Stanton C G; Stasiński M S; Steele C; Stenhouse M; Steven C D; Stevenson B T; Stewart G M; Stocks S; Strickson J; Strudwick D J; Stubbs S J; Sturcke A; Sullivan E T; Summers S M; Sunderland B; Sutton L; Swaby M S; Swan A; Syrett T W; Tailor E P; Talk K S; Taylor D M; Taylor M D; Taylor M D; Taylor N J; Teal M S; Thaker D; Thomas N; Thomas R J; Thompson S J; Thomson D J; Thorpe G; Tillotson P J; Tolmie A R; Tomlinson N G; Toone S J; Topen S G; Tron S M; Tu-Kwee-Tong M J S; Tunstead W I; Turner GLA; Tweedie F M; Tyler M H; Upton C M; Vaz J B; Vicker N S; Vidler R P; Vincent P J; Viner M J; Waddington D; Wade MJE; Wakefield K; Wakeling J C; Walker C; Walker P; Walker S; Walker S J; Wallace L J; Walton J M J; Ward A J; Ward A M; Ward S; Warren R E; Warren S; Watkins A M; Watson R W; Webb K J; Weber M H; Wedd C V C; Wedge C T; Welch N J; Wells J M; Wesley S; West D W; Whalley M A; Wharton D; White J; White P; White W I; Whitehouse J; Wilkinson D P; Wilkinson J M; Williams D; Williams D L; Williams G; Williams G I; Williams J K; Williams M B; Willis R; Winn A J; Winters C R; Wong P; Wood M J; Woodhull P J; Woodward C J; Woodward S C; Wright A H; Wright J L; Wright R K; Wynn R J; Wynne J; Yapa T; Young A G; Young B; Youngman C J.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Bartolommeo Cristofari, pioneer of piano making, Padua, 1655; Thomas Henry Huxley, biologist, London, 1825; John Speke, explorer, Ilminster, 1827; Sir Archibald McIndoe, plastic surgeon, Dunedin, New Zealand, 1900.

DEATHS: Edward, Prince of Wales, murdered, Tewkesbury, 1471; William Froude, naval architect, Simonstown, Cape Colony, 1879; Sir Osbert Sitwell, writer, Florence, 1969; Marshal Tito, President of Yugoslavia 1953-80, 1980; Diana Dors, actress, Windsor, 1984.

The TUC called the first General Strike in British history, 1926.

School news

St Leonards and St Katharines Schools
The summer term began on April 18. Lorna Bradburne is acting Head of School and Lauren McQuade is Captain. Huguelin Heard and Catherine Eckersley are the Dowagers. The Music Masters' and Mistresses' Association Conference takes place on May 6 to 8. Amongst the guests will be Ian Wallace and Sir Peter Maxwell Davies. Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* will be performed in the Byre Theatre, St Andrews, by the St Leonards School choir and orchestra on May 3, 4 and 6. Senior Week begins on Friday, May 19 and the Preacher at the School Service on May 21 will be the Most Rev Richard Holloway, Bishop of Edinburgh. The Junior Drama production of *Mr A's Amazing Maze Plays* by Alan Ayckbourne, will be performed just before half term. Open Day will be on Friday, June 9. St Katharines' Sports and Speech Days are on July 1 and 3. The St Leonards' term will end on July 4 when the guest speaker at Speech Day will be Mr A.N. Wilson.
The school exists to provide a first class education for girls.

Luncheon

Newspaper Society
The Leader of the Opposition was the guest of honour and speaker at the annual meeting luncheon of the Newspaper Society held yesterday at the London Hilton on Park Lane. Mr Gerry Holbrook, president, was the host. Among those present were:

Mr Geoffrey Copeman, senior vice-president, Mr Robin Burgess, junior vice-president, Sir Ray Tindle, honorary treasurer, Lord Rodgers of Quarry Bank, Lord Wakeham, Sir Norman Fowler, MP, the Hon Sir Richard Storey, Sir Gordon and Lady Linacre, Sir David English, Sir Peter Gibbings, Sir Irvine Patnick, MP, Mr S G G Clarke, Mr Andrew Mackinlay, MP, Mr Alan Milburn, MP, Mr Bryan Davies, MP, Mr Geoffrey Dickens, MP, Mr Michael Meacher, MP, Mr Thomas McAvoy, MP, Mr Richard Caborn, MP, Mr Peter Mandelson, MP, Mr Ian Park, Mr Huw Stevenson, Mr Dugal Nisbet-Smith, Mr Tim Morris, Mr David Newell and Canon John Oates.

Sir John Pope-Hennessy

A Requiem Mass for Sir John Wyndham Pope-Hennessy, CBE, FBA, FRSL, FSA, will be celebrated at The Oratory, Brompton Road, London, SW3, on Thursday, June 1, at 11.00am.

Service

Department of Employment
Mr Michael Portillo, Secretary of State for Employment, gave a reading at a Department of Employment service held yesterday at St Margaret's, Westminster, to mark the 50th anniversary of VE-Day. Canon Donald Gray officiated. The service was followed by a buffet luncheon at Church House.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C.E.J. Boston
and Miss J.G. Davy
The engagement is announced between Charles Edward James, son of the late Mr and Mrs Joseph Boston, of Holland Park, London, and Jane Georgina, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Davy, of Cheriton Fitzpaine, Devon.

Mr M.F. Dixon-Ward
and Miss C.E. Hall
The engagement is announced between Martin, only son of Mr Frank Dixon-Ward, CBE, and the late Mrs Dixon-Ward, of Beckenham, Kent, and Caroline, elder daughter of Sir John and Lady Hall, of Albury, Hertfordshire.

Mr C.W. Fair
and Miss F.V. Popoff
The engagement is announced between William, son of Mr Nicholas Fair, of Pencader, Dyfed, and Mrs Isla Fair, of Chinnor, Oxon, and Vanessa, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Popoff, of Binbrook Hill, Lincolnshire.

Mr T.J. Gibbs
and Miss S.J. Mills
The engagement is announced between Timothy, eldest son of Mr Alan Gibbs and the late Alizon Gibbs, of Farway, Devon, and Suna, only daughter of Mr and Mrs David Mills, of Chaddesley Corbett, Worcestershire.

Mr O.J.H. Huntsman
and Miss C.A. Fricker
The engagement is announced between Oliver, son of the late Mr J.H. Huntsman and of Mrs J.H. Huntsman, of London, and Christina, daughter of Mr and Mrs C.W. Fricker, of Surrey.

Mr E.D. Knight
and Miss C.E. Price
The engagement is announced between Edward, younger son of Mr and Mrs Derek Knight, of Frittenden, Kent, and Charlotte, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Nicholas Price, of Maidford, Northamptonshire.

Mr C. McCarthy
and Miss P.M. Webber
The engagement is announced between Colin, son of Mr and Mrs Dennis McCarthy, of Hartfield, Sussex, and Philippa, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Webber, of Oxted, Surrey.

Mr R.D.C. Maunder
and Miss M.E.J. Ford
The engagement is announced between Robert, eldest son of Mr and Mrs David Maunder, of Esher, Surrey and Hong Kong, and Michelle, eldest daughter of Mr David Ford, of Dunsfold, Surrey, and the late Mrs Jilly Ford.

Mr M.E. Myer
and Miss A-S. Ferguson
The engagement is announced between Edward, elder son of Mr and Mrs A.C. Myer, of Chawleigh, Devon, and Anne-Simone, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Ferguson, of Le Theureau, Digoin, S.-et-L., France.

Mr E. Manise
and Miss K.M. Stuart-King
The engagement is announced between Erwin, son of Mr Werner Manise and of the late Mrs Manise, of Antwerp, Belgium, and Kathleen, elder daughter of the late Mr John Stuart-King and of Mrs Alix Stuart-King, of Kensington, London.

Mr G.A.M.B. Page-Turner
and Señorita R.M.T. Diaz-Downey
The engagement is announced between Gregory, younger son of Mr and Mrs Noel Page-Turner, of Honiton, Devon, and Raquel, daughter of Dr and Doña Diaz-Estevez, of Seville and Valencia.

The Rev Professor C.R. Seitz
and Miss J.S. Gammell
The engagement is announced between the Rev Professor Christopher Reese Seitz, PhD, of Yale University, second son of the Rev Thomas and Mrs Seitz, of Winter Haven, Florida, and Josephine Sarah, youngest child of Mr and Mrs Guy Gammell, of Hazelnut Orchard, Munstead. The marriage will take place on July 15, 1995, in England.

Mr A.M. Smith
and Miss A.D. Vignali
The engagement is announced between Alistair, only son of Mr and Mrs R. Smith, of Meols, Wirral, and Angela, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs G. Vignali, of London.

Marriages

Mr S.J. Fallon
and Miss E.O. Madden
The marriage took place on Wednesday, April 26, at Chelsea Register Office, of Simon, son of Ann Fallon, of Wimbledon, and Erika, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Colm Madden, of Nova Scotia.

A reception was held at the Belvedere, Holland Park.

Mr C. Lewington
and Miss P. Kelly
The marriage took place quietly at Bath Register Office, on Monday, May 1, 1995, between Mr Charles Lewington, son of Mr Maurice Lewington and the late Mrs Sheila Lewington, and Miss Pippa Kelly, daughter of Mr and Mrs Arthur Kelly. A Church blessing will be held later this year.

Lieutenant Commander
M.W. White
and Miss V.J. Cherry
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 29, at Portsmouth Register Office, of Lieutenant Commander Mark White, elder son of Brigadier and Mrs Neville White, of Arborfield, Berkshire, and Miss Vivien Cherry, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Alan Cherry, of Partridge Green, West Sussex.

Dinners

Woolmen's Company
The Princess Royal was present at a dinner of the Woolmen's Company held last night at Painters' Hall. Mr Clifford S. Dennis, master, presided and during dinner presented the Woolmen's medal and prize to Ms Lynne Smyth who had achieved a distinction in the Clothing and Footwear Institute examination for 1994. Mr Michael Noakes and Mr John Harrison also spoke.

The Earl of Stockton, Mr Angus Cundey, Mr Emrys Davies and the Masters of the Curriers', Stationers' and Newspapermakers' and Farmers' Companies were among the guests.

HM Government
The Hon Douglas Hurd, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was the host at a dinner given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday at 1 Carlton Gardens in honour of Mr Willy Claes, Nato Secretary General.

London Goodenough Trust
Mr Brian Turner was the guest speaker at the annual Trinity Term Dinner of the London Goodenough Trust for Overseas Graduates held yesterday at Mecklenburgh Square. Mr A.L. Robinson, governor, and Major-General T.P. Toyne-Sewell, director, received the guests.

Service dinner

The London Scottish Regiment
Lieutenant-Colonel P.R.P. Swanson and Mr A.C. Morris were the principal guests at the annual dinner of the officers dinner club of The London Scottish Regiment, held last night at Westminster. Colonel J.A. Clemence, Regimental Colonel, presided.

Sheriff's Breakfast

High Sheriff of Greater London
The Lord Lieutenant of Greater London and Lady Bramall, the Lord Chief Justice, Lord Taylor of Gosforth and the Lord Mayor of Westminster attended the Sheriff's Breakfast given by Mr Graham Hearne, CBE, High Sheriff of Greater London, at the Savoy Hotel yesterday. Among those present were:

Mrs Graham Hearne, Lord Justice McCowan, Sir Derek Spencer, QC, MP, Judge Norwood, Judge Butler, QC, Judge White, Mr Peter Goldsmith, QC, Mr Peter Badge, Sir Godfrey Taylor, Dl, Lady Hamilton of Dalzell, Sir Cyril Taylor, Mr and Mrs Clive Richards, Mr and Mrs Derek Steel, Mr and Mrs Antony Butterwick, Master Topley, Mr Nigel Nicholls, CBE, Master McKenzie, Group Captain John Constable, Mr Giscrge Gordon-Smith, Mr John Brindley, Mr and Mrs William Harrison, Mr and Mrs Roger Hearne, Mr and Mrs Marwood Brown, Mr Christopher Hearne, Miss Melissa Bashazar, Mr and Mrs Edward Bishop, Mr William Bishop, Miss Catherine Bishop, Miss Sophie Hearne, Mr Robert Askew, Mrs Claire Sandbrook and the Under Sheriff and Mrs John Hargrove.

Lecture

The Bristol Society
Mr Jay Tidmarsh, MBE, The High Sheriff of Avon, The Lord Mayor of Bristol, The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bristol and the Vice-Chancellor of the University of the West of England were present at a Lecture given for the Society by Mr Jocelyn Stevens, CVO, at the Council House last night. Mr St John Hartnell, Chairman of the Society, presided and Mr Tony Read of Hall Harrison Cowley gave the vote of thanks. Hall Harrison Cowley hosted a supper afterwards.

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And anyone who has left houses, or brothers or sisters, or father or mother, or children, or land for the sake of my name will be repaid many times over, and gain eternal life.
Matthew 19 : 29 (REB)

BIRTHS

CARE - On April 25th, to Alison (née Fellows) and Tim, a son, Charles Anthony Fellows.

EDMONDES - On 28th April in Muscat, Oman, to Susan (née Hyde) and Nicholas, a son, Patrick James Greaford, a brother for Agatha (Taggie).

FAIRFAX-LUCY - On April 3rd, at Warwick, to Edmund and Erica, a son, Patrick Samuel Thomas Fulke.

GASS - On April 27th, in Rome, to Marianne and Simon, a daughter, Olivia Catherine, a sister for Christopher and Matthew.

GRAHAM - On Saturday 29th April, to Emma (née Garvin) and Hugh, a son, Hugo James Ludovic (Ludo), a brother for Ivo and Georgia.

HALL HALL - See Smart.

HISCOCKS - On 2nd May 1995, to Miranda (née McLoughlin) and Tom, a son, William George and a daughter, Rosanna Kate.

McCORMICK - On May 3rd at Addenbrooke's, Cambridge, to Fiona (née Head) and Sean, a son, a brother for Cyrla.

ROPNER - On May 1st, to Emma (née Andrews) and Charles, a son, Richard Jonathan Charles, a brother for Mary Rose and Eugenie.

SMART - On 24th April, to Jenny (née Hall Hall) and Peter, a son, Hugo Christopher Walton, a brother for Charles.

BIRTHS

SNOXALL - At The Matilda Hospital, Hong Kong, on April 29th, to Charlotte (née Tatham) and Justin, a son, "Sam", a brother for Sophie and Annabel.

TINKER - On April 30th, to Louise and Jonathan, a son, a brother for George.

WILLIAMS - On April 30th, at the Chelsea and Westminster Hospital, to Suzannah (née Langford-Holt) and James, a son, Luke Caspar John.

WILSON - On 29th April, to Alexandra (née Davis) and Timothy, a son, Henry George Hewitt.

MARRIAGES

TORKINGTON:FLANDERS - The marriage took place on Saturday 29th April at The Church of St Lawrence the Martyr, Abbots Langley, between Dr. Jared Torkington and Alison M. Flanders.

DEATHS

ADAMS - Michael, on 27th April 1995, aged 80, on holiday in France. Husband of the late Molly, much loved father of Nicholas, Daffodil and George, and a devoted grandfather. Funeral at the Church of the Blessed Mary, Upham, Hampshire, at 2.30pm Friday 12th May 1995. Family flowers only. Donations to the Gloucestershire Macmillan Nurse Appeal c/o Thomas Pink and Son, Bishops Waltham, SO32 1AN.

ALCOCK - J. Stephen, on May 3rd 1995 aged 66 years. Beloved husband of Kathie, dearly loved father of Coral, Lorraine and Jonathan and son and daughter-in-law Colin and Suzneva, treasured Poppa of Kane, Sarah, Christopher and Jonathan. Funeral Service on Tuesday May 9th at Llanasa Parish Church at 2pm, followed by interment at Coed Beli Cemetery at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please, but donations gratefully received in his memory towards the Prestatyn Community Hospital c/o The Funeral Director Tegid O. Jones & Son, 232 High Street, Prestatyn, tel: (01745) 853949.

BARRATT-STENNETT - On April 27th, Sheila, peacefully in hospital. Much loved and admired for her courage and sense of fun. The sister to Betty and Joyce and aunt to Mary, Richard, Sally and Barbara. Cremation on Tuesday May 9th at 3.30pm at Guildford Crematorium.

BROWN - Albert, on 27th April after a long illness, former amateur county cricketer (Warwickshire) and professional snooker player. Dearly loved husband and father. Cremation private.

CARSON - Nicholas, younger son of Anne and the late Alan, suddenly at home on 2nd May. Funeral Service at Fisherton Parish Church, Dunure, on Saturday 6th May at 10.30 am. No flowers.

DEATHS

CREIGHTMORE - John Quentin peacefully, on 2nd May 1995. Dearly loved by all his family: Godfather, friend and doctor of many. Funeral private. No flowers please. Donations to Joan Bertett Trust c/o 79 Cadogan Place, SW1X 9RP. Commemoration to be arranged in September.

EASON - On May 1st in Moreton-in-Marsh District Hospital, after a long decline following a motor accident and a short terminal illness, Vivian Illingworth in her 80th year, much loved wife of Ted and beloved mother of Marian, grandmother of William and sister of Evelyn and Henry. Service at Oakley Wood Crematorium, Wellesbourne, on Thursday May 11th at 3 pm. No flowers please. Donations, if desired, to The Brooke Hospital for Animals, Cairo, c/o Allen & Son, High Street, Moreton-in-Marsh, Glos.

FURNESS - On 1st May 1995 at the Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth, Frè Anthony Furness, 2nd Viscount Furness, Bailiff, Grand Cross of Justice, Sovereign Military Order of Malta, aged 65 years. Funeral Mass will be on Thursday 11th May 1995 at 10.30 o'clock at the Church of St John of Jerusalem, Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth, 60 Grove End Road, London NW8 9NH. R.I.P. Enquiries to John Nodes & Sons Ltd., 181 Ladbroke Grove, W10 6HH. tel: (0181) 969-1819.

KING - Peacefully at his home on 2nd May 1995, Osborne, beloved husband, father and grandfather. Service at Down Cathedral, Downpatrick, on Wednesday 10th May 1995 at 2.45 pm. No flowers please, donations in lieu if desired to The J.O.K. Fund for Marie Curie Nurses c/o The Northern Bank, Crossgar, Co. Down, BT30 9EE.

LAMBERT - On 29th April at home after a long illness, Marion ("Molly") of Ealing. Widow of William Lambert. Funeral at St Andrew's, Mount Park Road, on Tuesday 9th May at 2.30pm. Flowers to Christopher Wickenden FS, 71 Greenford Avenue, Hanwell, London W7 1LJ.

LAWTON - Canon John Arthur, on Saturday 29th April at home, aged 82 years, a well respected and much loved man. Former Rector of Winwick and Archdeacon of Warrington. Funeral Service at St Oswald's Church, Winwick, on Tuesday 9th May at 1.30 pm followed by committal at Walton Les Crematorium at 3 pm. Enquiries to Knox and Son Ltd., tel: (01926) 633588.

OSTROWSKI - On May 2nd 1995, after a long illness, borne with courage and dignity, Alicja Ostrowski, dearly loved wife of Andrew and mother of Mark, Martin, Jonathan and Dominic. Funeral Service at Our Lady Queen of Heaven, Frimley, Surrey, at 9.30 am, followed by cremation at the Easthampstead Crematorium at 11 am. Family flowers only. Donations to London Hospital Medical College. Enquiries to Ford Mears & Partners, Frimley, Surrey, tel: (01276) 26563.

MATHUR - Dr. Abhay Kishore, Senior Consultant Anaesthetist, Middlesex Hospital, London N18, passed away on 1st May. Deeply mourned by the family members and friends. Cremation will be on Saturday 6th May at 2 pm at Golders Green Crematorium, 62 Hoop Lane, London NW11. No flowers please. Donations may be made to Hare Krishna Mandir or Imperial Cancer Research Fund c/o Indian Funeral Service, Unit C Alexander Place, Lower Park Road, London N11 1ST, tel: (0181) 361-6161.

POWER - On May 1st at Ashley House, Cirencester, Joan Lewis (née Grist) aged 94. Beloved wife of the late Brigadier G.S. Power, Royal Signals, much loved Mamma to Caroline and David, grandmother to Clare and Westie, Nick and Jane, and Richard, and great-grandmother of Benjamin and Hugh. Funeral at St Michael's Church, Winson, near Cirencester, on Wednesday 10th May at 2pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only - donations for Save the Children Fund to Wilmot & Co., High Street, Fairford, Glos. GL7 4AE.

PROTHEROE - On April 24th 1995, David Allan, beloved husband of Joanne and much loved father of Samantha and Lucinda. Funeral St Mary and St Lawrence, Great Bricett, on May 11th at 2 pm, followed by private cremation. Family flowers c/o L. Fulcher, 58 Ipswich Street, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 1AD. Donations to Great Ormond Street Childrens Hospital.

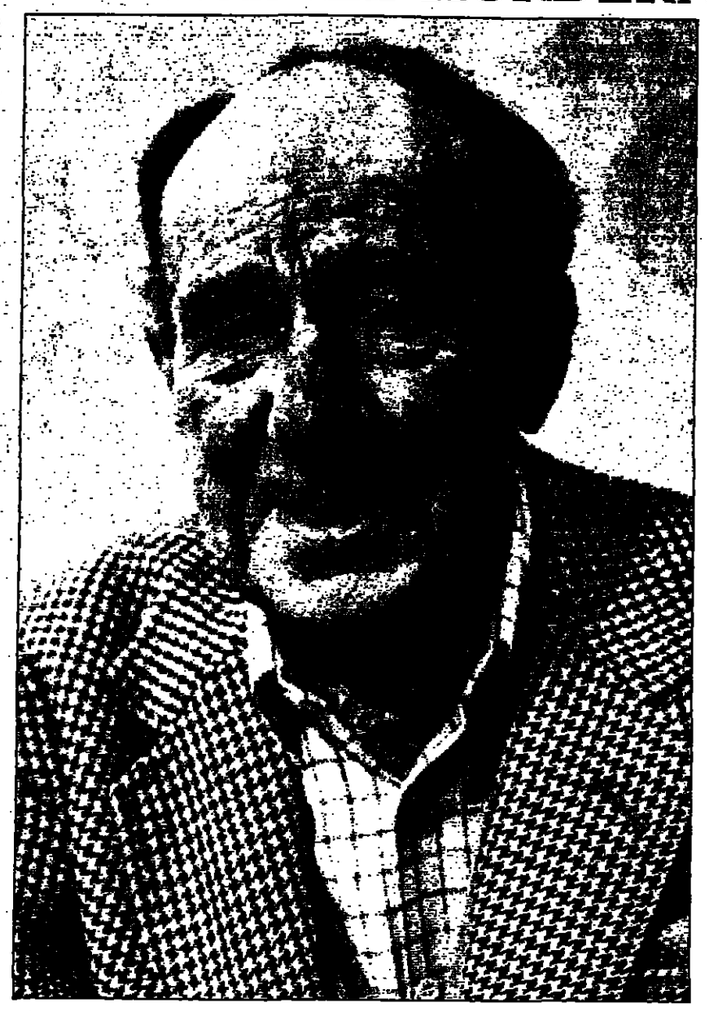
ROBBIE - Suddenly on May 1st 1995, Clare (formerly Shepherd) of Ditchingham, Norfolk, aged 85 years, beloved wife of John. A loved sister, aunt and stepmother to Alan and Alison. Enquiries tel: (01986) 892178.

STEPHEN - Margaret Olive, on 15th March 1995, much loved mother of John and Jan Stephen.

TAYLOR - Herbert Flack of Chiswick. Musical palindrome expert and violinist. Died peacefully aged 87. "Your humour and warmth will be missed by everyone who knew you. Wishing you peace and happiness" your relatives, neighbours and friends. Funeral Tuesday 9th May at 1.30 pm at Mortlake Crematorium.

TILEY - On 1st May at home

SIR MICHAEL HORDERN



Sir Michael Hordern, CBE, English stage and screen actor, died in hospital in Oxford on May 2 aged 83. He was born at Berkhamsted on October 3, 1911.

"THE Austin Princess among British actors," was how John Hurt and Michael Bryant once described Michael Hordern. The comment was not wholly flattering, but Hordern himself rather liked it and quoted it approvingly. And it contained a good deal of truth.

Hordern was extremely British: not one for the export market, although he did appear in a number of Hollywood films. He was highly polished and comfortable on stage, often called in when others had fallen by the wayside. He played many of the great classical roles: Lear, Macbeth, Anthony Absolute, Chekhov's Ivanov. And he was also adept at family favourites, including Toad (of Toad Hall) and Paddington Bear. But he was never really one for the fast lane. He preferred to cruise along gently, especially in his later years.

Few matched Michael Hordern when it came to playing English eccentrics, men carefully out of touch with their times. A keen fisherman from schooldays, he fitted into tweeds as though he had been born wearing them. He was a natural for lairds and headmasters, but equally skilled at the seedier sort, including the barrister Margenhall in John Mortimer's early play *The Dock Brief*. He had quite a lot in common with Ralph Richardson, sharing that actor's ability to steal a scene quite shamelessly: the sight of Hordern as Sir Anthony Absolute eating a boiled egg in Peter Wood's 1981 production of *The Rivals* at the National obliterated everyone else on stage.

Michael Murray Hordern had no formal theatrical training and was proud of the fact, saying that he would have been long-haired and tiresome had he gone to drama school. His background was strictly middle-class and non-theatrical. His father was an officer in the Royal Indian Marines; a close relative of his mother invented Milk of Magnesia, which helped the family finances. Michael did not see the inside of a theatre until he was 15 but he did play the Duchess of Plaza-Toro at Brighton College. That was about all he managed of distinction at school, where he was thoroughly overshadowed by his elder brother, Peter, who won a rugby Blue at Oxford and went on to play for England.

Hordern himself never made Oxford. By the time his turn came the Milk of Magnesia money had all but run out educating the rest of the family, so he turned to one of the great standbys of the impoverished middle classes of those days: prep school teaching. This did not appeal and he became instead a rep for the Educational Supply Association. Simultaneously there developed in him a taste for amateur theatricals. Hordern sold blackboards and chalk by day and rushed to put on greasepaint in the evening.

He was 25 by the time he decided to throw up the ESA and take a job at the Savoy Theatre as assistant stage manager for a play by L. Du Garde Peach. In those days Peach was a big name, but not big enough and the play ran for only ten days. Hordern then found himself playing Lodovico to Stephen Murray's Othello in the Mile End Road before he got a contract with the Little Theatre in Bristol. It was there that he met his future wife, Eve Mortimer.

Before the Second World War was declared Hordern managed to make the first of what were to be more than a hundred screen appearances. The film was a competent British thriller, *The Girl in the News*, directed by Carol Reed and starring Emlyn Williams and Margaret Lockwood.

On the outbreak of the war Michael Hordern joined up and was commissioned in the Royal Navy. Much of his service was spent aboard the aircraft carrier *Illustrious*. His first captain was somewhat surprised when Hordern gave his profession as "actor" and immediately put him in charge of "ship's entertainments". By good chance a certain Robert Eddison was also on board and together the two officers entertained. Hordern's party piece was *A Lady Sings*, a mildly suggestive number beginning "I've got a little pussy".

On demobilisation Hordern realised that he had to speed to make up for lost time. He was in his mid-thirties and, unlike many of his contemporaries, he had had no secondment to "home entertainments". He played Torvald (*A Doll's House*) at the now defunct Intimate Theatre in Palmer's Green and Constant Lambert hired him as Bottom in Purcell's *Fairy Queen* at Covent Garden, with Robert Helpmann as Oberon. Hordern's comic gifts were being recognised because in that same year, 1946, he appeared in one of the first of the Ealing comedies, *Passport to Pimlico*, as a dour police inspector trying, unsuccessfully, to impose British law on the republic of Pimlico.

He went to Stratford-upon-Avon in 1948 for the Christmas performances of *The Wind in the Willows*, where the cast also included his wife Eve, whom he had married in 1943, and their three-year-old daughter, Joanna. He then joined Alec Clunes's company at the Arts Theatre in London and became involved in the *cause célèbre* of *Saint's Day*. John Whiting's early play was reviled by most of the critics and robustly defended by the likes of John Gielgud and Laurence Olivier. Hordern just kept quiet and played the lead. Whiting's reputation to this day remains a matter for debate.

Saint's Day encouraged Glen Byam Shaw to invite Hordern to Stratford as something more than Toad. In 1952 Kenneth Tynan described his Jacques in *As You Like It* as "a great performance: rooted in self-disgust, but with a tattered plume of merriment capering always over its head". As so often, Tynan encapsulated a talent in a sentence. The early 1950s were Hordern's "classical years". He went to the Old Vic company, where Richard Burton and Claire Bloom were the reigning stars.

There and on screen he was to play support to Burton. Hordern in the theatre often collected the better notices, but, as he ruefully acknowleged, at the stage door the fan club belonged to Burton. In films such as *Alexander The Great* (1956), *Cleopatra* (1963) and *The Spy Who Came in from the Cold* (1965) Hordern had to accept that his name would be well down in the credits. Probably he knew in his heart that he was really a stage actor.

This was recognised by a rising generation of playwrights. John Mortimer's *The Dock Brief* began life as a radio play, with Michael Hordern as the superannuated lawyer called on to defend a wife-killer. The impresario Michael Codron persuaded Mortimer to write a companion piece. *What Shall We Tell Caroline?* and put on the double bill at the Lyric, Hammersmith, in 1958, with Hordern. He played in Harold Pinter's *The Collection* (1962) as well as in early successes by both Alan Ayckbourn and Tom Stoppard, *Relatively Speaking* (1967) and *Enter a Free Man*. For David Mercer Hordern acted the ton-up anarchist vicar in *Flint* (1970).

At the end of the 1960s he fell temporarily under the spell of Jonathan Miller, who first cast him as the rationalist professor in a highly successful TV adaptation of M. R. James's ghost story, *O Whistle and I'll Come to You*. This led to Hordern's first *Lear*, under Miller's direction, at the Nottingham Playhouse in 1969. Irving Wardle much admired it in *The Times*. Two television adaptations of *Lear* followed.

In *Jumpers*, first staged at the National in 1972, Tom Stoppard had created the part of George Moore, a philosophy don in constant mad debate with himself, which could only have been played by Michael Hordern. It was, opposite Diana Rigg. When the play was revived in 1976 Hordern remained in the same role. George Moore and Sir Anthony Absolute in *The Rivals* (1983) were probably Hordern's two greatest comic creations for the National. Both were directed by Peter Wood, who knew exactly how to get the best from him.

From time to time when he was in his seventies Michael Hordern was tempted back to the commercial theatre. A glossy revival of Shaw's *You Never Can Tell* (1987) at the Haymarket had him as William, the omniscient butler. A two-hander with Dinsdale Landen, *Bookends* (1990) turned out to be one of Keith Waterhouse's rare flops — too literary fpr the West End. Hordern's last stage appearance was in *Trelawney of the Wells* (1992-93).

Television was offering him much greater rewards. Hordern found himself working with John Mortimer again in a glossy and expensive adaptation of the latter's *Paradise Postponed*. He was very at home in Kingsley Amis, teaming with John Mills in the TV version of *Ending Up*. Then there was the BBC's much admired *Middlemarch* last year. Hordern's role as the dying Peter Featherstone was a small one but he claimed that it was ideal as the script required him to spend most of his time in bed. And before Featherstone died Hordern's name was in the top billing each week.

His wife Eve died in 1986. The marriage at times had been a stormy one. Hordern was often susceptible to the charms of his leading ladies, Coral Browne among them, and at one time he was barred from the family home, as he ruefully recounted in his autobiography, *A World Elsewhere*. He shared many of his later years with the actress Patricia England. He was appointed CBE in 1972 and knighted ten years later. He leaves his daughter.

MAURICE PRICE



Maurice Price, QC, died on April 15 aged 72. He was born in Wrexham on May 4, 1922.

MAURICE PRICE belonged to the generation whose university studies were interrupted by the Second World War and who returned, mature and determined, to complete their degrees. He joined a brilliant group of law students at Cambridge at a time when the teaching was of a very high quality. Among them were four recently retired law lords, Lords Brandon of Oakbrook, Templeman, Griffiths and Oliver of Aylmerton.

Price came from a solidly Welsh background and throughout his life retained a characteristically mellifluous and fluent style of speech which served him and his clients well when complex and subtle notions needed to be presented to the courts.

John Maurice Price was educated at Grove Park School, Wrexham, where his outstanding academic performance culminated in a scholarship to Trinity College, Cambridge. At the university he became an actor and an enthusiastic member of the Footlights.

In 1941 he was called up, joining the Royal Navy and later the submarine service. He was on active service in Australia (where his submarine surfaced long enough for him to meet and marry Mary Gibson, herself the daughter of a doctor who had been at Gallipoli) and on VE-Day he and his comrades were trapped on the bottom of the ocean under a barrage of Japanese depth charges.

Returning to Cambridge in 1947, he gained a first-class degree and then read for the Bar, being called by Gray's Inn in 1949 as the Holker Senior Scholar. He became a pupil of John Brightman (later Lord Brightman) at No 2 New Square, Lincoln's Inn, a status which he shared with the young Margaret Thatcher.

As a member of Brightman's chambers, he rapidly became an expert in trust law and one of the foremost draftsmen practising at the Chancery Bar. His acuity of mind and thoroughness of approach made him much sought after by eminent firms dealing with the tangled affairs of the landed gentry or large commercial organisations. His creative drafting and large imagination enabled him to prepare schemes to preserve for posterity many great houses and gardens often by subjecting them to charitable trusts for the advancement of aesthetic education). In the commercial field, too, his ingenuity helped to maintain employees' benefit schemes set up in happier times. The Conservative Party was also a client which enjoyed the advantage of his astute mind dealing with intricate financial arrangements.

In 1976 he successfully applied for silk and his practice took on an international dimension with cases in Singapore and Israel. These, however, were unusual deviations from his advisory work, in which he continued to develop his subtle skills.

Much admired by his contemporaries, in the 1970s he served his profession on the Senate of the Inns of Court and the Bar and on the Supreme Court rules committee and became a Bencher of Gray's Inn in 1981 (becoming chairman of its management committee in 1989).

Between 1972 and 1990 he was head of his chambers and a father and friend to his younger colleagues. He gradually converted a somewhat Dickensian environment into a modern and thriving institution; but before this was finally achieved, his room, which retained a classic elegance, was used as the location of John Cleese's chambers in the film *A Fish Called Wanda*. Those who knew him only as a distinguished lawyer were astonished and touched by the ease with which he reverted to his Footlights days as he threw himself into advising the film crew.

Price was always an intensely civilised man with a love of opera and a taste for the English novel (he particularly admired Jane Austen and R. S. Surtees). He had a home and garden in Kent of which he was justly proud, although his great industry left him comparatively little time to enjoy it.

When he did take a rare holiday, he would spend it fishing for salmon in remote Scottish rivers with genial companions. This was a refreshing contrast to the esoteric intellectual pursuits in which he so excelled.

He married in 1945 and leaves a widow and two sons.

COLONEL DENIS HARDING

Colonel Denis Harding, DSO, Korean War hero, died on April 15 aged 79. He was born on December 8, 1915.

DENIS HARDING played an important part in the epic stand of the 1st Battalion the Gloucester Regiment on the Imjin River in April 1951, during the first year of the Korean War. The Imjin River action, in which the "Glorious Glosters", commanded by the late Colonel James Carne (who was awarded the VC), fought to a standstill against overwhelming Chinese forces, ranks as one of the most celebrated fighting achievements of the Korean conflict.

At the end of it, the surviving officers and men of the battalion were taken into captivity where they endured conditions of the utmost rigour at the hands of an enemy who cared little for the provisions of the Geneva Convention. This ordeal they withstood for 19 months, the phlegm of the British captives under maltreatment often proving an inspiration to other PoWs of the United Nations forces who shared their captivity.

In the battle, which raged from April 21 to 25, 1951, Harding's B Company held the right flank of the 1st Gloucesters' position, denying for many hours the attempts of the Chinese Communist forces to complete the encirclement of the battalion, which was isolated and hugely outnumbered by the enemy.

The stubborn resistance of the officers and men under his determined leadership facilitated concentration of the defences on Hill 235, where the much reduced force, including C Troop of 170 Mortar Battery, continued to block the intermediate route to Seoul, the South Korean capital. When at last Harding was ordered to draw back into this position, he forced the enemy battalion opposing him to concede a series of ridges separating him from Hill 235.

No more than twenty out of the one hundred men under his command survived the journey; the remainder were killed, wounded or otherwise detached, in a dozen close actions en route. For his outstanding conduct throughout the battle he was awarded the DSO. When all attempts to relieve the Gloucesters failed, and they were ordered to make their own way to the United Nations' rearward line, Harding was among those captured.

Edgar Denis Harding was educated at Plymouth College and the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, from which he joined the Gloucesters in 1936, serving with the 2nd Battalion in Egypt when Mussolini threatened the frontier zone in that year.

When war came, he was appointed adjutant of the 11th Territorial Battalion, a post in which he made a considerable name for himself within the regiment, and which soon led to a place at the staff college and service in India and Burma as a brigade major. He rejoined the 2nd Battalion in 1947 to take command of its detached company in British Honduras, established to reinforce the colony, whose territory was threatened by Guatemala. It was a slender deterrent force, but he displayed its strength effectively.

Posted to command the Regimental Depot in 1949, he was recalled to the 1st Battalion next year when it was dispatched to Korea within the 29th Independent Infantry Brigade Group. For many months after the Imjin River action Harding was assumed to have been killed. It was not until September 1951 that he was known to be a captive. He was confined in the officers' camp at Pinchong-ni on the Yalu River, in the far north of the Korean peninsula. There, as elsewhere, the Chinese Communists attempted over many months to daunt and subvert their captives.



Although the British were in a minority among their American comrades, they were leaders in resistance to Chinese oppression. Denis Harding was notable among them, refusing to sign a bogus confession of "conspiracy" and suffering as a consequence a long period in close confinement, much of it in solitary. On other occasions he was variously tied to a beam by his wrists or made to stand stripped to the waist for 12 hours in the snows of the bitter North Korean winter. But his determined and steadfast conduct earned wide respect among all the United Nations prisoners in the camp. Eventually, in 1953, the captive survivors of the 1st Gloucesters were released and in October of that year arrived back in Southampton to a heroes' welcome.

In later years Harding commanded the 5th Territorial Battalion and was subsequently promoted to be Colonel of the Wessex Brigade, among whom he made many friends. After his retirement from the active list in 1970 he was a highly successful regimental secretary of the Gloucesters.

In all these accomplishments, Harding's devotion to regimental interests, his humanity and dry sense of humour were manifest and influential. In 1941 he married Phyllis Clarke, who contributed wholeheartedly to the fun and generous hospitality characteristic of their household. She survives him with their daughter and son.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL REPORT of Bruce Church Charitable Trust is available for inspection until 15th November 1995 at Blackwell House, Guildhall Yard, London. Attn: McLees.

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WESTMINSTER THEATRE

"BLACK CHIFFON"
BY LESLEY STORM

Psycho-analysis seems this year to have taken on a new lease of life in the theatre. The obvious dramatic objection to it is that a character can be explained or a problem solved in specialized terms which are only completely acceptable if we happen to look at human conduct from the specialist's point of view. Miss Lesley Storm's play of psycho-analysis is exceptional in this respect. She succeeds in stating a human problem in such a way that the psychiatrist's explanation of it merely gives a scientific gloss to the explanation that might occur to any of us.

It is possible that she overdoes the goodness of the woman who having protected a son from the husband's irrational jealousy finds that he and she are on the eve of his marriage locked together emotionally. But the streak of jealousy that has persisted through the years in an otherwise kindly, intelligent and industrious breadwinner is most plausibly presented. Their home is comfortably affluent and their family life superficially smooth and pleasant; yet the woman, faced with the prospect of losing her son to another woman of whom she highly approves, is moved by an obscure and almost unconscious sense of rivalry, to steal a chiffon nightgown from the counter of a West End store. She steals with a sense of inexplicable exultation, is arrested and charged with theft. A psychiatrist persuades her and her husband of the reasons for her aberration, and she is then faced with a desperate dilemma. Shall she let the secrets of her heart be discussed in court and cast a shadow over her son's new young delicate relationship with his wife, or shall she offer no defence and be sent to prison?

The dialogue is consistently neat and pointed, and tense situations open smoothly into situations yet more tense. Miss Flora Robson is of course wonderfully well suited to the mother's part, a woman struggling with touching bravery to melt away some icily obstructive mechanism which comes between her and the free expression of a warm and sympathetic personality. In her embarrassed confession to the family, in her reconstruction, for the psychiatrist, of the mood in which she committed the theft and in her solution of the final dilemma Miss Robson never once loses her hold on the house. Mr. Wyndham Goldie wears an air of uneasy preoccupation which somehow brings home to him the more subtle crime of which he is guilty. Miss Rachel Gurney reflects the sympathetic daughter in a crystal-clear mirror, and the rest of the company gives admirable support to the various well judged tensions of the piece.

ON THIS DAY

May 4 1949

This play by Lesley Storm (1904-1975), which ran for over a year, saw Dame Flora Robson in one of her most affecting parts as a mother, who, faced with the prospect of losing a son in marriage even to a woman of whom she approves, suffers psychological strain and steals a nightdress from a West End store.

GETTYSBURG MS SOLD

NEW YORK, MAY 3

The fifth and final manuscript of Lincoln's Gettysburg address; which was the property of Mrs William A Bliss, of Baltimore, and her daughter Elinor, was sold at auction in the Parke-Barnet Galleries here on April 29 for $54,000 (£13,500).

NEWS

Riots cast doubt on Sinn Fein talks

■ Ministerial talks with Sinn Fein next week were thrown into doubt last night after rioting Republicans almost wrecked John Major's visit to Londonderry in the worst outbreak of violence in Northern Ireland since the IRA ceasefire.

Seven policemen were hurt as the rioters tried to keep the Prime Minister out of the city, but Mr Major defied the demonstrators by insisting on going ahead with his visit to the Tower Museum after the streets had been cleared .....**Page 1**

Fine weather brings pollution warning

■ Pollution warnings were issued in England and Wales after temperatures in Britain soared above those of Barcelona and Beirut. The Department of the Environment warned that foul air caused by traffic fumes and bright sunlight would affect most parts of the country today.....**Page 1**

Pre-emptive strike

Senior Conservatives are trying to head off an early leadership challenge to John Major by threatening to name MPs who formally call for a contest before the autumn.....**Page 1**

Zagreb attack

Rockets carrying cluster bombs fell on lunchtime crowds in Zagreb, killing one person and injuring 64, including Mark Boldin, 27, a Kent-born dancer.....**Pages 1, 15**

Jaguar sales stall

Twenty five car enthusiasts who changed their minds after putting their names down to buy a £415,000 Jaguar have agreed to pay £100,000 each after cancelling their orders.....**Page 1**

Child benefit threat

Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, signalled that the Tories may drop their commitment to universal child benefit in the next election manifesto.....**Page 2**

Baby to coma mother

A baby girl was born alive ten weeks after her mother was injured in a road crash and lapsed into a coma. The 3lb 2oz child is 12 weeks premature .....**Page 3**

Law Society curb

The large fees paid to top barristers from legal aid funds must end, the Law Society says. It called for tough controls on fees .....**Page 5**

Defence cuts end

All the "big decisions" to cut and transform the armed forces after the end of the Cold War have now been taken and further reductions have been ruled out, according to a White Paper.....**Page 7**

Prince applauded

The Prince of Wales plunged into the sensitive German debate over how to celebrate the end of the war with a loudly applauded speech that underlined the horror of the Allied bombing raids on Hamburg .....**Page 9**

A singular charm

A charm offensive to "sell" the idea of a single currency is being planned by Jacques Santer, the European Commission's new president .....**Page 14**

Coast guarded

Italy will deploy 1,000 troops along the Apulia coast next week to try to halt the influx of illegal immigrants from Albania and Montenegro.....**Page 14**

FBI appointment

The Clinton Administration has promoted a bête noire of America's anti-government militia movement to be the FBI's second-in-command.....**Page 16**

Chirac leads race

Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist, was firm favourite for the French presidency after a lacklustre television debate with Lionel Jospin, his Socialist rival .....**Page 17**

Alabama revives the hated chain gang

■ A total of 320 subdued but angry men knelt on the ground to be shackled together at the ankles, five to a chain, eight feet apart. They were put to work under the gaze of armed guards to cut grass, clear ditches and pick up litter beside a motorway. That was the scene as Alabama revived the dreaded prison chain gang.....**Page 16**



CHRIS HARRIS



Workers assemble the main stage in Hyde Park yesterday in preparation for the three-day VE-Day commemorations. Page 9

BUSINESS

Barclays: Barclays Bank staff have voted by a majority of almost 60 per cent to mount their first national strike in protest at an imposed 2.75 per cent pay rise.....**Page 25**

Warburgs: National Westminster Bank is interested in buying the 75 per cent stake in Mercury Asset Management held by Warburg, the merchant bank that faces break-up .....**Page 25**

Pubs: Whitbread will spend another £300 million this year on restaurants, hotels and pubs, creating 2,500 jobs .....**Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 14.4 points to close at 3262.6. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 84.4 to 84.6 after a rise from $1.6125 to $1.6160 and from DM2.2164 to DM2.2212.....**Page 25**

SPORT

Cricket: Australia took only one wicket during the morning session in Kingston as they set out to become the first side to beat West Indies in a Test series for 15 years .....**Page 48**

Equestrianism: Mark Todd is the rider to beat at the Badminton Horse Trials. Only Mary Thomson seems able to deny him his second successive win.....**Page 46**

Rugby Union: The career of one of England's finest players, the Bath flanker John Hall, is due to end this week with the Pilkington Cup final against Wasps .....**Page 43**

Racing: Lester Piggott's wife dismissed talk of his retirement as premature. She said he would be back in the saddle later this year after taking a break .....**Page 48**

ARTS

Proms from A to Z: The 1995 BBC Proms season marks the centenary with an array of commissions to top composers .....**Page 37**

Roth in Brooklyn: Hollywood's favourite screen hitman, Tim Roth, returns to killing ways in this week's main new film, *Little Odessa*. Meanwhile, *Clerks* shows what can be achieved on a budget of less than £20,000.....**Page 35**

State of Tennessee: A superb new production of *The Rose Tattoo* showcases Kathryn Hunter in Tennessee Williams's celebration of sexual liberation .....**Page 36**

All together now: The London Philharmonic and the Royal Philharmonic, combined to give a Festival Hall concert under Sir Georg Solti's .....**Page 37**



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **HISTORY WOMAN** Valerie Grove meets Jennifer Page, chief executive of the Millennium Commission

■ **PLUS ...** The Bernard Levin column, Caitlin Moran, and David Sinclair on pop

FEATURES

Relaxed rules: Pedantic grammarians may be appalled by David Crystal's new book, *The Cambridge Encyclopaedia of the English Language* .....**Page 18**

BODY AND MIND

Effects of war: A new study shows that anxiety and emotional numbing are some of the long-term effects of battle trauma.....**Page 19**

BOOKS

Surviving victory: Alistair Horne, in a survey of a score of books for VE-Day, is struck by the courage of the civilians .....**Page 39**

Hitler's ghost: Norman Stone's corrective to a revisionist account of Hitler's last days .....**Page 38**

THE PAPERS

Baby Richard was whisked away from suburban Chicago by a man he had never met. It says it all about a legal system preoccupied with the rights of biological parents instead of the best interests of the child

— Los Angeles Times

Although American officials hesitate to say so in non-proliferation circles, the United States still has a valid purpose to maintain a minimum nuclear deterrent. No one understands this better than those from unstable regions who call for the US to go quickly down to zero

— The Washington Post

TV LISTINGS

Preview: New evidence of the Nigerian Government's campaign of terror against the Ogoni people is revealed in *Delta Force* (Channel 4, 9pm). **Review:** Matthew Bond hates stripped pine but warms to the therapeutic qualities of BBC2's *Home Front* .....**Page 43**

OPINION

Pity the poor Tory

Better to be a traffic warden or a tax collector than a Tory candidate for today's local elections — or so several thousand battered politicians throughout England and Wales must be thinking .....**Page 21**

Croatian skirmish

The overblown international reaction to the fighting in Croatia this week suggests that hysteria and hypocrisy are no longer the monopoly of the combatants in former Yugoslavia .....**Page 21**

Nessun dorma

After his Garsington ruling, Judge Wilson-Mellor deserves at least to have an opera composed in his honour: would not *I Giudici* be a fitting tribute?.....**Page 21**

COLUMNS

JANET DALEY

Mothers are reputed to be moving from the Post Office window where they collect their Child Benefit, to one where they can lose the whole amount in ten minutes of feverish card scratching .....**Page 20**

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

The Oklahoma bomb has horrified America, and for the time being at least, changed American politics.....**Page 20**

PETER RIDDELL

Local elections are interpreted almost entirely in terms of their national implications, for the standing of the Government and for the future of the Prime Minister. But the most lasting impact of today's polls could be local, on control of Town Halls and on the morale, and membership, of constituency parties.....**Page 10**

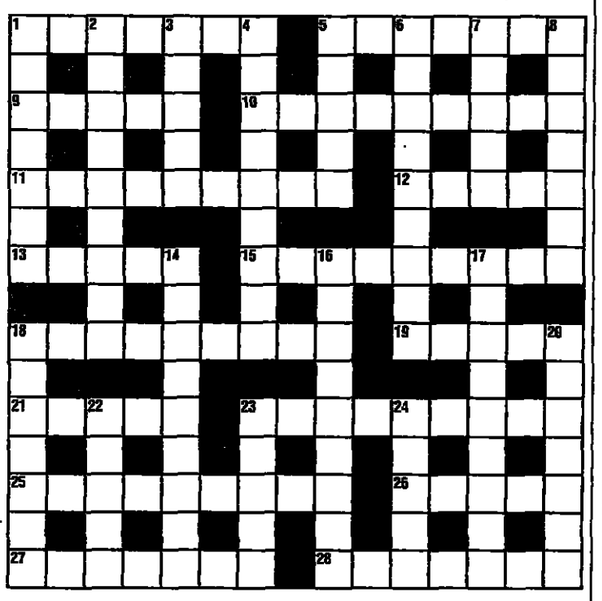
OBITUARIES

Sir Michael Hordern, stage and screen actor; **Maurice Price**, QC; **Colonel Denis Harding**, Korean War hero .....**Page 21**

LETTERS

Proposed new divorce rules; VE-Day commemoration; Serbia-Bosnia border.....**Page 21**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,846



ACROSS

1 Tired of backing the family drop-out (7).
5 When a house is thus decorated no payment is asked (7).
9 Awake in a prison (5).
10 Votes to shilly-shally (3,3,3).
11 Stood still after snake surfaced (9).
12 Scruffy hotel's Spartan servant (5).
13 Left mountain to go back for rope (5).
15 Dicky is not touching the paint (3,6).
18 Clothes in bottom drawer may be tussore with a posh finish (9).
19 In a brawl a thick stick is helpful (5).
21 Australia, I found, has invigorating air (5).
23 Cut short a barrister with this? (4,5).
25 Advocate with some hesitation appears for scandalmonger (9).
26 Language the French can produce (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,845

KNIGHTERRANT
I S I W A A B R
TASTELESS HOUSE
C U R S P U T E
HYENAS GUNMETAL
E R T R E
NUANCE AIRFIELD
S H E N I S
SETASIDE PRISON
W E E M O
ATROPINE CALLOW
T I T O M E H
HASTE ADDLEPATE
E K C T I N V R
HEREANDTHERE

27 Nobleman's dignity represented in melodrama after loss of mother (7).
28 Kill the sheriff of Bottleneck out of love (7).

DOWN

1 Row about poster's boring device (7).
2 No tapas, it turns out, for starters (9).
3 Girl, as usual, left out (5).
4 One outcome of a secretary's depression (9).
5 Money put down for Highland costume accessory (5).
6 It contains drink for buffet at ball (5-4).
7 Certain about the short name of the kidneys (5).
8 The sun is throwing the quarter deck astray (7).
14 Pearl's couch? (6-3).
16 Smoked, and illness pronounced better! (4-5).
17 Haberdasher has nothing to say about suit (9).
18 Bother treasury head over foreign currency (7).
20 The popular conception of childhood (7).
22 Its winner may be seen in a large limo (5).
23 Assumption corporation lawyer in US anticipates (5).
24 Tree trunks found in woods, say (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 44

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

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Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shropa,Heralds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

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M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
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East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Tuesday: Highest day temp: Heathrow, 24C (75F); lowest day max: Orsay, on Islay, off western Scotland, 11C (52F); highest rainfall: Aviemore, Highland, 0.32in; highest sunshine: Guernsey, 11.7hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** a weak cold front will cross northern areas. England and Wales will have another fine day with plenty of sunshine. Any early mist will soon lift and it will become very warm in most places by the afternoon. Sea breezes will keep most coasts cooler. Scotland will be mainly dry too and fairly warm with some sunshine.

The best of the sunshine will be in the east, while the north and west will have cloudy spells with a little coastal drizzle for a time. Northern Ireland may start rather cloudy with patchy drizzle in places. However, most places will become dry with sunny intervals later.

☐ **London, E Midlands, W Midlands, Central N:** early mist, then dry and sunny. Wind east or southeast, light. Max 25C (77F).

☐ **S E England, E Anglia, Central S England, E England, Channel Isles, S W England, S Wales, N Wales, N W England, Lake District, N E England:** early mist and fog patches, then dry and mostly sunny. Wind mainly south or southeast light. Cooler on coasts. Max 24C (75F).

☐ **Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, S W Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, N E Scotland:** mainly dry with patchy cloud and sunshine. Wind southwest light or moderate, becoming west light. Max 20C (68F).

☐ **Argyll, N W Scotland, N Ireland:** rather cloudy with drizzle, dry with some sunshine later. Wind southwest, mainly light to moderate, becoming west or northwest. Max 17C (63F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** cloudy with patchy drizzle, sunny intervals and isolated showers later. Wind southerly moderate, occasional fresh, veering southwest. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **Outlook:** dry and warm in most places with some sunshine.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	4.1	-	19	66	b	Liverpool	10.2	-	21	70	s
Anglesey	6.4	-	16	61	b	London	8.7	-	23	73	s
Aspatria	6.8	-	19	66	b	Lowestoft	6.0	-	17	63	s
Aviemore	2.4	0.32	15	59	sh	Manchester	9.7	-	21	70	s
Belfast	1.7	0.06	18	64	c	Margate	7.8	-	19	66	s
Birmingham	9.4	-	21	70	s	Minehead	X				
Bognor R	10.2	-	19	66	s	Morecambe	8.6	-	21	70	s
Bournem'th	11.2	-	19	66	s	Newcastle	7.8	-	22	72	s
Bristol	9.2	-	21	70	s	Newquay	X				
Buxton	10.3	-	19	66	s	Norwich	7.1	-	21	70	b
Cardiff	9.6	-	20	68	s	Oxford	9.3	-	21	70	s
Clacton	6.6	-	15	59	s	Penrhos	8.8	-	17	63	s
Colwyn Bay	7.9	-	21	70	s	Plymouth	9.4	-	19	66	s
Cromer	8.6	-	19	66	s	Poole	10.3	-	21	70	s
Doncaster	8.9	-	21	70	s	Prestatyn	X				
Dunbar	X					Ross-o-wye	9.4	-	22	72	s
Eastbourne	8.4	-	18	64	s	Ryde	10.4	-	17	63	s
Edinburgh	3.7	-	20	68	b	Salcombe	8.7	-	17	63	s
Eskdalemuir	7.5	-	17	63	b	Sandown	9.9	-	17	63	s
Exmouth	8.2	-	16	61	s	Saunton Snd	5.1	-	21	70	s
Falmouth	X	-	18	61	s	Scarboro'	8.1	-	19	66	s
Fishguard	8.5	-	19	66	s	Scilly Isles	X				
Folkestone	7.4	-	20	68	s	Shanklin	10.0	-	17	63	c
Glasgow	0.9	0.06	15	59	sh	Shrewsbury	10.1	-	21	70	s
Guernsey	11.7	-	20	68	s	Skegness	6.7	-	14	57	b
Hastings	7.6	-	19	66	s	Southend	10.8	-	18	66	s
Hayling L	9.7	-	16	61	s	Southport	9.6	-	22	72	s
Herne Bay	8.2	-	21	70	c	Southsea	9.5	-	X		s
Hove	9.5	-	17	63	s	Stornoway	0.7	0.09	11	52	s
Hunstanton	6.2	-	19	66	b	Swanage	10.0	-	14	57	s
Ilfracombe	X					Teignmouth	7.1	-	14	57	b
Isle of Man	X					Tenby	8.0	-	16	61	s
Jersey	11.1	-	22	72	s	Tiree	2.4	0.13	13	55	sh
Kinloss	3.1	0.15	18	64	sh	Torquay	7.5	-	18	64	s
Leeds	9.2	-	23	73	s	Tynemouth	-	-	15	59	c
Lerwick	7.8	-	12	54	b	Ventnor	X				
Leuchars	4.2	-	19	66	b	Weymouth	10.3	-	16	61	s
Littlehmptn	9.8	-	19	66	s						

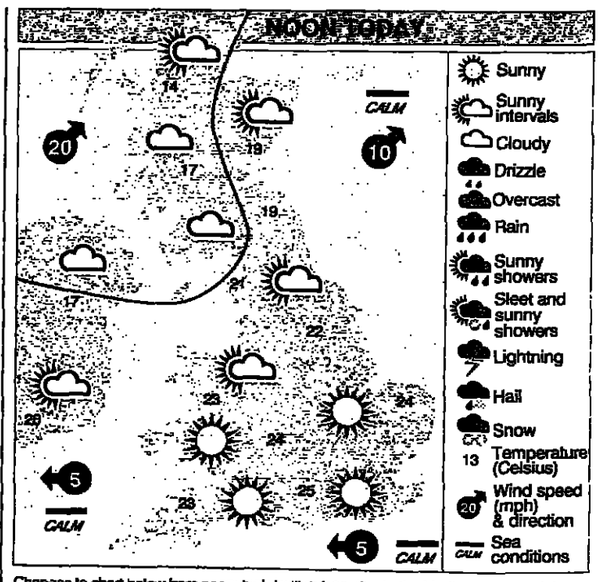
These are Tuesday's figures

ABROAD

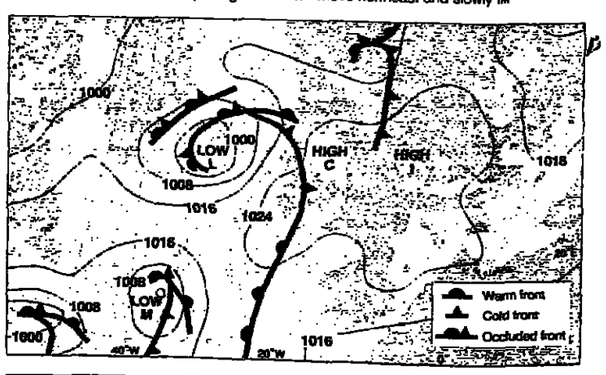
Ajaccio	19	66	r	Corfu	22	72	f	Majorca	21	70	f
Akrotiri	20	68	s	Dublin	14	57	c	Malaga	21	70	f
Alex'dria	21	70	f	Dubrovnik	20	68	r	Malta	18	64	c
Algiers	22	72	s	Faro	27	81	s	Malta'rma	17	63	s
Amst'dm	20	68	s	Florence	21	70	f	Mexico C	24	75	s
Athens	22	72	s	Frankfurt	18	64	s	Miami	31	88	f
Bahrain	33	91	f	Funchal	20	68	c	Milan	21	70	s
Bangkok	36	97	f	Geneva	16	61	f	Montreal	17	63	s
Barbados	31	88	f	Gibraltar	20	68	s	Moscow	2	36	c
Barcelona	19	66	s	Helsinki	8	46	s	Munich	15	59	s
Beirut	21	70	f	Hong K	31	88	s	Nairobi	22	72	c
Belgrade	12	54	r	Innsbruck	17	63	f	Naples	21	70	s
Berlin	14	57	s	Istanbul	15	59	f	N Delhi	34	93	s
Bermuda	26	79	s	Jeddah	38	100	s	N York	9	48	r
Biarritz	19	66	s	Jo'burg	18	61	f	Nice	21	70	s
Borde'x	26	79	s	Karachi	38	100	s	Oslo	15	59	s
Brussels	20	68	s	L Palmas	23	73	s	Paris	21	70	s
Budapst	15	59	c	Le Touet	21	70	f	Peking	16	61	s
B Aires	20	68	s	Lisbon	25	79	s	Perth	20	68	s
Cairo	27	81	s	Locarno	23	73	f	Prague	11	52	s
Cape Tn	19	66	s	L Angels	18	64	c	Reykjavik	11	52	f
Chicago	14	57	s	Luxemb'g	18	64	s	Rhodes	20	68	s
Cologne	20	68	s	Luxor	36	97	s	Rio de J	33	91	s
C'phagn	11	52	s	Madrid	24	75	s	Riyadh	36	97	s
								Rome	18	64	f
								Salzburg	16	61	f
								S F'isco	16	61	s
								Santiago	21	70	s
								S Paulo	24	75	c
								Seoul	22	72	s
								Sing'por	28	79	t
								St'kholm	10	50	c
								Strasb'rg	19	66	s
								Sydney	21	70	r
								Tangier	25	77	s
								Tel Aviv	24	75	s
								Tenerife	24	75	c
								Tokyo	25	77	s
								Toronto	15	59	f
								Tunis	19	66	c
								Valencia	21	70	f
								Vanc'ver	12	54	r
								Venice	20	68	s
								Vienna	13	55	s
								Warsaw	8	46	c
								Wash'ton	9	48	c
								Wellington	19	66	f
								Zurich	15	59	c

Tuesday's temperatures at midday local time. X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: high I will drift south into the Mediterranean and decay. High C will remain close to the UK with little change to pressure. Low L will move north and then east steadily filling. Low M will move northeast and slowly fill



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4:11	6.64	4:29	6.83	Leith	4:55	5.02	5.25	4.88
Aberdeen	3:48	3.80	4:17	3.71	Liverpool	1:22	8.80	1:45	8.46
Avonmouth	9:34	11.87	9:42	11.77	Lowestoft	11:58	2.31	–	
Belfast	1:23	3.52	1:45	3.19	Margate	2:09	4.42	2:31	4.46
Cardiff	9:26	10.98	9:35	11.16	Milford Haven	6:38	6.09	6:50	6.12
Devonport	8:05	4.86	8:18	4.99	Newquay	7:33	5.98	7:52	5.94
Dover	1:11	5.16	1:35	5.12	Oban	8:07	3.44	8:12	3.54
Dublin	1:57	3.85	2:22	3.66	Penzance	7:06	4.81	7:25	4.85
Falmouth	7:30	4.42	7:50	4.65	Portland	8:58	1.65	9:06	1.70
Glasgow	3:19	4.58	3:46	4.10	Portsmouth	1:33	4.41	2:00	4.37
Harwich	2:05	3.72	2:15	3.68	Shoreham	1:15	5.69	1:42	5.60
Holyhead	0:32	5.15	0:57	4.91	Southampton	1:01	4.25	1:27	4.24
Hull	8:37	6.84	9:03	6.51	Swansea	8:46	8.48	8:57	8.46
Ilfracombe	8:22	8.02	8:31	8.05	Tees	6:05	4.89	6:33	4.70
King's Lynn	8:44	5.99	9:03	5.77	W'ton-on-Nze	1:54	3.92	2:05	3.92

Crown copyright reserved All tide times are GMT

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 5.28 am
Sun sets: 8.28 pm
Moon sets
Moon rises 8.47 am

First quarter May 7

London 8.28 pm to 5.28 am
Bristol 8.38 pm to 5.36 am
Edinburgh 8.57 pm to 5.22 am
Manchester 8.43 pm to 5.28 am
Penzance 8.45 pm to 5.32 am

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هكذا من الأصل



ANATOLE KALETSKY 29

Why Clarke will be wrong to raise interest rates



BOOKS 38, 39

The mystery that lingers around Hitler's last days



SPORT 42-48

Check your scores in the Fantasy First XI game

VANESSA THE STAR INGREDIENT
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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY MAY 4 1995

NatWest eyes Warburg's MAM stake

BY PATRICIA TEHAN, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

NATWEST is interested in buying SG Warburg's 75 per cent stake in Mercury Asset Management, worth £1.17 billion.

Warburg announced on Tuesday that it was in talks with Swiss Bank Corporation about a sale of its investment banking business, but excluding MAM and the SG Warburg Group holding company. The implication was that this would leave an independent MAM, with Warburg distributing cash from the sale of investment banking, along with its MAM shares, to shareholders. Another option is selling Warburg's MAM stake.

MAM has been reviewing its options since the collapse of Warburg's merger talks with Morgan Stanley in December. It has held talks with several firms interested in building up their UK fund management businesses.

MAM's shares fell by 17p yesterday, to 840p, valuing the fund manager at £1.57 billion.

Warburg dropped another bombshell yesterday with its third profits warning since October. It said that its profits for the year to March 31 would be "very significantly" below market estimates.

Martin Owen, chief executive of NatWest Markets, which runs the bank's fund management operation, has made no secret of his aim to build up that side of the business, through acquisition if the right deal came along. NatWest was in talks with the administrators of Barings, the merchant bank that collapsed in February, about its asset management business.

A NatWest Markets spokesman refused to discuss the talks, saying: "We do not comment on the market speculation that is whirling around."

ABN Amro, the Dutch banking group, has also been mentioned as interested in MAM.

The bank had also been in discussions about the Barings asset management business and was interested in Jupiter Tyndall, eventually bought by Commerzbank. However, a spokesman said there had been no talks with MAM.

In its statement to the Stock Exchange, Warburg said that although MAM had operated broadly in line with expectations, "trading conditions have adversely affected the performance of the investment bank and thus the profits of the group as a whole are expected to be very significantly below the range of current market forecasts". Warburg said a preliminary announcement of its figures would be made by May 25. It is expected to bring the results forward if it ties up a deal with SBC before then.

Last October, the bank stunned the market with a profit warning. In November, it said that first-half profits had tumbled 56 per cent, to £65.2 million, hit by turmoil in equity and bond markets. Sir David Scholey, who took over as executive chairman in February, after Lord Cairns, the chief executive, left, issued another profits warning then.

Yesterday, after the third warning, banking analysts, who had been predicting profits of £130 million, said that Warburg will be lucky to break even for the year.

Hugh Pye, banking analyst with BZW, said that estimated £113 million profits from MAM will be wiped out by similar losses from Warburg's investment banking. He said that excluding a £40 million exceptional profit from the sale of Pallas Leasing, Warburg is likely to break even.

Warburg appeared "to have suffered more pain than a lot of its competitors". He expects half the investment banking loss to come from trading operations and the rest from the cost of closing its non-sterling eurobond business.

Pennington, page 27
Key seven months, page 29
City Diary, page 29

Ringing up reward for turnround



AT&T still in talks on Mercury

BY ERIC REGULY

CABLE AND WIRELESS is considering selling a stake in Mercury Communications to AT&T, America's largest long-distance phone carrier. A prerequisite of any deal would be a greater US presence for Cable and Wireless or access to AT&T's technology.

Executives familiar with the negotiations between the two companies, which have been going on for more than a year, said determining a fair price for Mercury is not the only issue. "There's got to be more in it than dollars," said one.

It is common knowledge in the industry that C&W, which owns 80 per cent of Mercury, and AT&T have held talks about the sale of Mercury, though both companies refuse to comment. James Ross, C&W's chief executive, met AT&T executives in New York as recently as four weeks ago.

AT&T is attracted to Mercury because it has a large telecoms network in Britain, a broad range of corporate clients and, perhaps most important, one of the country's two licences for a transatlantic telephone service. The other is held by British Telecom.

C&W wants to strengthen its US presence. Its American company, which offers long-distance service to small and medium-sized companies, has revenues of about $500 million a year, but that represents only about 1 per cent of the corporate telecoms market. Determining how AT&T can help C&W to strengthen its US presence been a key element of the discussions. It appears little progress has been made in this area. C&W is also said to be interested in gaining access to AT&T software systems, such as data and freephone handling and multimedia operations. One of the executives said it is unlikely AT&T would buy C&W's entire stake in Mercury; 40 per cent or so is more likely.

Pennington, page 27

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3262.8	(+14.4)
Yield	4.18%	
FT-SE A All share	1598.05	(+6.17)
Nikkei	Closed	
New York:		
Dow Jones	4346.17	(+17.29)*
S&P Composite	517.26	(+2.40)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 5/16%*	(5 5/16%)
Long Bond	104 1/32*	(103 28/32)
Yield	7.29%*	(7.32%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6 5/16%	(7%)
Liffe long gilt future (Jun)	104 1/2	(103 15/32)

STERLING

New York		
$	1.6170*	(1.6160)
London:		
$	1.6169	(1.6127)
DM	2.2218	(2.2232)
FFr	7.9180	(7.9400)
SFr	1.8301	(1.8306)
Yen	134.79	(134.89)
£ Index	84.8	(84.4)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.3733*	(1.3773)
FFr	4.8915*	(4.9155)
SFr	1.1330*	(1.1350)
Yen	83.45*	(83.62)
$ Index	87.4	(87.4)

Tokyo close Yen Closed

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Jul).. $18.15 ($18.30)

GOLD

London close..... $388.95 ($388.75)

Denotes midday trading price

BAT attack

BAT, the tobacco and insurance group, made a record pre-tax profit of £498 million in the first quarter as profits from tobacco surged, in spite of the growing global trend against smoking. The group, however, attacked the Personal Investment Authority and the Government for the difficult conditions its financial services arm faces.

Page 27, Tempus 28

Housing merger

The Peabody Trust and Network Housing Association, two leading charitable housing associations, yesterday announced merger plans.

Page 30

Barclays staff vote to strike

BY ROBERT MILLER

BARCLAYS BANK staff have voted to stage their first national strike, according to Unifi, the union representing them.

The union will today announce the result of a ballot of some 32,000 non-managerial members, claiming that, of those who voted, 60 per cent were in favour of industrial action over an imposed pay award of 2.75 per cent.

Unifi has timed the announcement to coincide with the Barclays annual meeting in London today.

The union, which is calling for a 5 per cent salary increase with a minimum of £600-a-year rise for the lowest paid bank staff, will highlight the bank's record £1.86 billion profit for 1994. Unifi said that the top six directors of the bank earned £7.1 million in pay and share options.

A spokeswoman for Barclays said: "We will be obviously very disappointed if a majority of staff have voted to strike, but we will make every effort to ensure that branches remain open. All clerical staff have received a pay increase of 2.75 per cent and the majority will also have been given a performance-related bonus to bring pay awards up to around 5 per cent plus a profit sharing bonus averaging around £1,000."

To the brink, page 29

Virgin poised to begin flights to Australia

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

RICHARD BRANSON'S Virgin Atlantic Airways is poised to win approval from the Australian Government to begin direct flights from the UK to Australia.

The move represents a significant breakthrough for Virgin, which has long been keen to break into the A$1 billion (£740 million) "kangaroo" route.

The route is currently dominated by British Airways and Qantas — in which BA has a 25 per cent stake — which between them account for about 50 per cent of all business on the route.

Richard Branson confirmed yesterday: "Talks are taking place at the moment which leave us encouraged that there may be a positive outcome within the next seven days.

He added: "We have always said that we would like to fly direct to Australia but we have in the past been thwarted by regulations at both ends of the route." Branson has been holding a series of discussions by telephone with Laurie Brereton, the Australian Minister for Transport.

The Australian Government is also expected to give the go-ahead to Virgin's code-sharing deal with Malaysia Airlines within the next few days. Under the agreement, Virgin flights to Kuala Lumpur would link with Malaysia Airlines flights from Kuala Lumpur to Sydney. The arrangement has already been approved by both the British and Malaysian governments, but Virgin has been unable to proceed without the approval of the Australian Government for the Kuala Lumpur-Australia leg of the trip.

Virgin also recently entered into a joint arrangement with Ansett, the Australian airline through which Virgin flights to Hong Kong link with flights on to Sydney.

News of the approval for Virgin to begin direct flights to Australia will come as a blow to Qantas in the run up to the proposed A$2 billion flotation of the remaining 75 per cent of the group this summer.

The airline has already been hit by the Hong Kong Government's recent decision to limit its so-called "fifth freedom" flights between Hong Kong and Bangkok and Singapore, and Australian institutional investors remain extremely wary about investing in such a volatile industry. One transport analyst said: "It will not be good news for Qantas. The route between Australia and Europe is an important one for them."

Separately, it has emerged that Qantas is to close a number of satellite offices in London with the loss of an unspecified number of jobs. Activities will be consolidated in its office in Hammersmith, west London. The airline has been under pressure to cut out duplication since BA took its stake in 1993.

Patricia Vaz yesterday toasted her success in being named businesswoman of the year by Veuve Clicquot and conceded that it probably made up for failing her A-levels. The former clerical officer rose through the ranks of British Telecom to head its payphones business and turn a £46 million loss into a profit of £74 million in the space of three years.

Whitbread to spend £300m and create 2,500 jobs

BY CARL MORTISHED

WHITBREAD will spend a further £300 million this year on restaurants, hotels and family pubs, creating 2,500 jobs and moving further into the leisure sector and away from its roots in brewing.

Heavy investment in Brewer's Fayre food outlets, and restaurant chains such as Beefeater and TGI Friday's, paid off for Whitbread, which makes Boddingtons bitter and Stella Artois lager. Pre-tax profits before exceptional items in the year to February 25 rose 10 per cent to £255 million, with an 11 per cent surge in profit at the managed pubs, Whitbread Inns, and a 13 per cent boost in the return from restaurants and hotels.

Sir Michael Angus, chairman, said it was a creditable performance, given the public's lack of a "feel-good" factor, and pointed to Whitbread's cash inflow of £222 million, which has helped to pay off borrowings and cut gearing from 12.1 to 2.6 per cent. Over the last two years, capital spending of £500 million has been financed almost entirely by cash flow, Whitbread said.



Jarvis: restaurants paying

The new jobs come on top of 2,500 announced last month by Brewer's Fayre, which is building 48 pubs.

Whitbread's Travel Inns chain will be expanded to 4,000 beds, and Beefeater will grow to 300 outlets, from 270. Peter Jarvis, chief executive, said: "It is well on the way to making more money than the brewery."

Brewing saw profits rise 8 per cent, to £40 million, and the beer company is holding its margin at about 4.5 per cent in stiff competition but achieving strong growth in volume sales of premium brands.

The full-year dividend rises by 7.4 per cent, to 20.2p, after adjusted earnings of 38.52p, up from 34.88p.

Tempus, page 28

THE ORIGINAL DALVEY BUSINESS CARD CASE

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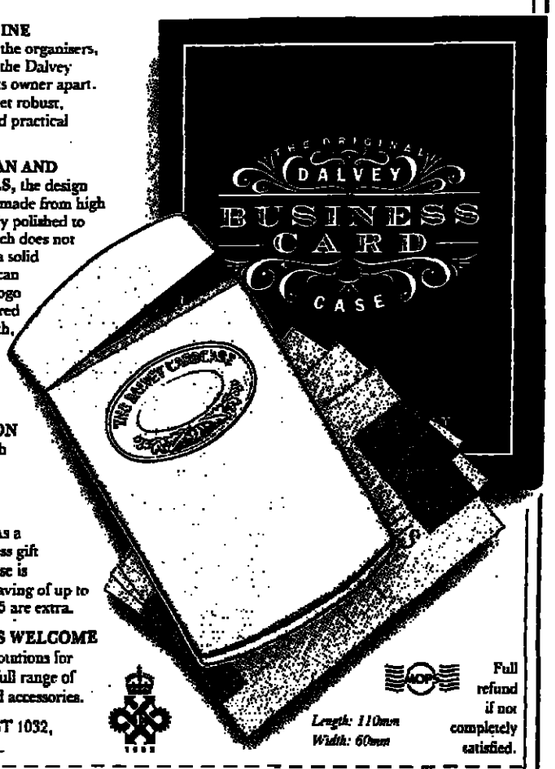
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Name on Card: .....
Signature: .....

TIM 31 Company No. 99662

Attallah plans to quit Aspreys next year

BY SARAH BAGNALL

NAIM ATTALLAH, the flamboyant chief executive at Asprey, plans to retire by the end of next year. The revelation came as the jeweller announced it was closing seven underperforming stores as part of a rationalisation programme and was seeking a new executive director.

One City analyst said he was not surprised to hear of Mr Attallah's impending departure, but that he expected it to be sooner rather than later. Asprey has expanded aggressively via a string of acquisitions under the auspices of Mr Attallah, who was 64 earlier this week.

However, profits have plunged and late last year the company was beset by rumours that it was in danger of defaulting on a £20 million loan. As a result, the shares have fallen from more than 350p to as low as 68p. Yesterday they closed 5p up at 83p.

The company is strengthening its board with the appointment of Howard Dyer, chairman of Hamleys and chief executive of Ascot Holdings, as a non-executive director. The group is also seeking an executive director who will be responsible for Asprey's multiple retailing operations, which account for about 40 per cent of group turnover. It is believed that the new recruit will be a front-runner for the chief executiveship. The company said it will consider further executive and non-executive appointments "as and when appropriate".

The closures affect one of the group's 16 Mappin & Webb stores, five of its 30 Watches of Switzerland stores and one of its five Les Ambassadeurs outlets. There will be some redundancies among the 46 employees at the branches being closed but some relocations.

The Mappin & Webb store affected is in Birmingham, while the Watches of Switzerland stores are in Oxford, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Upper Regent Street and Meadowhall. The Les Ambassadeurs outlet is in Lucerne. Asprey will provide for the costs in its results for 1995.

Business is split over prospect of interest rate rise

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

BUSINESS is divided today on the prospect of a new rise in interest rates, with some business leaders seeing a rate rise as necessary, while others view it as either marginal or damaging to economic recovery and especially increased investment.

Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, will meet tomorrow on monetary policy, with most City economists predicting they will agree to a further increase in interest rates.

Before the meeting, business leaders are putting forward a wide range of views on the impact of another increase in base rates. The Institute of Directors today concedes rates will probably have to rise, but says they should then be close to their peak.

In its latest business survey, the IoD says economic growth of 4 per cent is "unsustainable", especially with inflation rising above its target range and a weak exchange rate adding to existing cost pressures.

Tim Melville-Ross, IoD Director-General, said: "The case for a further rise in interest rates is not overwhelming, but given these factors it would be difficult to object if, as seems likely, the Chancellor and the Governor agree to a further half-point rise."

The institute's survey shows that business confidence has seen a "modest upturn" over the last two months, with a third of directors now optimistic about the economy compared with 28 per cent in February. Political uncertainty remains a barrier to any big improvement in confidence.

But Howard Davies, Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry, said yesterday a half-point rise would not hit confidence.

Mr Davies — who is set to take over in September as deputy Governor of the Bank — said: "I think a half-point rate rise is unlikely to have a big impact on consumer confidence. Half a point here or there — it is difficult to argue that it would have a major effect."

But machine-tool manufacturers gave warning that a rate rise would be likely to hit investment. Simon Brown, Director-General of the Machine Tool Technologies Association, said: "A lot of our members' smaller customers are still recovering from the damage of the recession, and have relatively weak balance sheets. "Another interest rate rise, from a confidence point of view, would have a damaging effect."

Small business leaders urged the Chancellor and the Governor not to raise rates. Dr Bernard Juby, financial affairs chairman of the Federation of Small Business, said: "A further rise in the level of interest rates would be seriously damaging to the small business sector."

In a letter to the Chancellor, chartered surveyors give warning that a further rise in rates would probably tip the construction industry back into recession.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors forecasts today that the industry is likely to see a further 15,000 job losses next year, and says: "A new rate rise could be a knockout blow to the industry which our forecast shows is extremely fragile."

ALAN WELLER



Sir Neil Shaw, chairman, at Tate & Lyle's refinery at Silvertown, east London

Tate & Lyle beats forecasts

TATE & LYLE, the world's biggest sugar company, yesterday beat City forecasts with a 17 per cent leap in profits and a 7 per cent rise in interim dividend (Sarah Bagnall writes). The shares gained 3p, to 443p, and analysts upgraded full-year forecasts.

Tate & Lyle reported a rise in pre-tax profits of £152.8 million, up from £130.9 million, in the 26 weeks to March 25. Analysts had been looking for profits of £140 million to £150 million. The rise in interim dividend, from 4.6p to 5p, also topped City forecasts. It is due on July 18, from earnings of 21.1p a share, up from 17.9p.

Sir Neil Shaw, chairman, said that he was confident about full-year prospects. He said: "Growth in demand and cost-control initiatives continue to benefit our cereal sweetener and starch activities."

Although the North American sugar market is still suffering from over-supply, the group's European businesses are performing well.

Trading in the second half is not expected to be as strong as the first half, helped by fine performances by the sweetener businesses, Staley, in the US, and Amylum, in Europe. "Staley's profit performance was excellent," Sir Neil said.

Tempus, page 28

B·A·T INDUSTRIES

Record first quarter profit

	Three months unaudited results to 31 March 1995	
PRE-TAX PROFIT	£498m	+19%
EARNINGS PER SHARE	9.6p	+16%

- The record first quarter profit of £498 million is a very encouraging start to the year, with excellent results from our tobacco businesses and a solid performance in financial services.
- Total tobacco trading profit increased by 27 per cent to £335 million. Profit from the US, which included American Tobacco for the first time, rose by almost 50 per cent and there was a good recovery in Brazil. Group cigarette volumes were 24 per cent higher.
- Total financial services trading profit rose by 10 per cent to £240 million, with the general business up 7 per cent to £135 million and the life and investment business 14 per cent higher at £105 million.
- "All in all, the year has got off to a very good start for B.A.T Industries. As I said at our AGM last week, I expect there to be a substantial increase in profits at the pre-tax level, compared to 1994's £1,802 million. Despite a more normal tax rate in 1995, we will continue to reward shareholders with a significant real increase in the dividend."

Sir Patrick Sheehy, Chairman

The full quarterly report is being posted to shareholders and copies are available from the Company Secretary, B.A.T Industries p.l.c., Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London SW1H ONL.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Dillon Read to buy back Baring holding

ING, the Dutch banking group that bought Barings from its administrators in March, told its shareholders yesterday that Dillon Read, the US investment bank, will buy back the 40 per cent of its shares owned by Barings "in phases". In the meantime Dillon Read will continue to co-operate with Barings, Aad Jacobs, ING chairman, said. He added that Barings will contribute £35 million a year to ING's earnings over the longer term, but he did not give any timetable. He repeated his forecast that Barings would be neutral for ING's earnings per share in 1995 and positive in 1996. ING bought Barings for £660 million.

The British Bankers' Association told MPs yesterday that it did not believe that radical changes in the framework of banking supervision were needed. In evidence to the Treasury and Civil Service Select Committee's inquiry into the derivatives markets, the BBA said the markets are an integral part of the financial system.

Unilever issues warning

UNILEVER, the Anglo-Dutch food and household products group, yesterday issued a warning that the strong guilder and weak pound and dollar will have a "negative influence" on first-quarter results reported in the Dutch currency. Morris Tabaksblat, co-chairman, said, however, that it was too early to draw any conclusions about the year as a whole. The first-quarter figures are due out on Tuesday. Sir Michael Perry, co-chairman, said a single European currency had many attractions, but had to come about as a "consequence of integration, not a prelude to it".

British Midland soars

BRITISH MIDLAND, the UK's second-largest scheduled service airline, increased pre-tax profits to £4.4 million in 1994 from £1.1 million the previous year, the company reported yesterday. An 11 per cent increase in total revenue passengers boosted turnover to £404.5 million from £371.1 million. Total capacity increased by 2 per cent, leading to an improved overall load factor of 61.4 per cent, up from 56.3 per cent. Sir Michael Bishop, chairman, said British Midland was "well-positioned to take advantage of continuing national and European economic recovery".

Topic deal by ICV

ICV, the privately owned information services provider, is consolidating in the UK after reaching agreement to acquire the Topic Plus and TAQ equity information services of Telekurs, owned by a consortium of Swiss banks. The deal, which should be completed by the end of June, will see ICV's Topic terminals in the UK grow from 6,000 to about 6,500. Two years ago the Stock Exchange entered into agreements with ICV and Telekurs for enhanced versions of its original Topic share price and company news services.

Merck's sales up 13%

MERCK, the family-owned German pharmaceuticals and chemicals group that plans to raise DM2.5 billion this autumn by a share issue in London, Frankfurt and Zurich, reported a 13 per cent rise in first-quarter sales, in spite of the strong mark. In 1994, Merck boosted net profit by 84 per cent, to DM318 million, on a 6.6 per cent rise in sales, to DM5.66 billion. Excluding acquisitions, first-quarter turnover rose by 10 per cent, with higher volumes responsible for the growth. There is no current link with Merck of America.

Beattie stake dwindles

THE family behind the Beattie department store group is to surrender its voting control. Under a plan intended to give fairer voting rights, the Wolverhampton-based store group James Beattie will enfranchise more shareholders. The Beattie family will see its stake dwindle to 19.4 per cent, assuming the voting and share buy-back plan is approved. The group announced pre-tax profits fell to £6.3 million in the year to January 31, (£6.6 million). Total dividends are 6.4p against 6.2p, with a 4.9p final to be paid July 10.

Currencies hit Nestlé

NESTLÉ, the Swiss food group, yesterday reported business was going well so far this year, but currency uncertainties made it difficult to forecast 1995 performance. Helmut Maucher, chairman and chief executive, said he was still hoping for full-year results broadly the same as in 1994. If the current situation in the currency market persists, it could dent business by 10 to 15 per cent, he said. Sales fell 1.5 per cent to SFr13 billion (£7.1 billion) in the first quarter, reflecting the currency fluctuations.

Jobless like Virgin but not British Gas

BY OUR INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE image problems suffered by British Gas are underlined today when even people without a job cite it as the company they would least like to work for. Virgin, the entertainment and transport chain, is listed as the most attractive employer.

In a national survey of unemployed people, a fifth of those questioned admit to having contemplated crime. Tony Blair, the Labour leader, is seen as the most caring political leader and Michael Portillo, the Employment Secretary, is seen as the least so.

The placing of British Gas at the top of the list of companies cited as the one people would least like to work for is, at 32 per cent, followed by British Rail (29 per cent) and British Nuclear Fuels (10 per cent).

Virgin is cited by 21 per cent of those surveyed as the company they would most like to work for, followed by the BBC at 15 per cent and BP at 13 per cent.

The survey, carried out by JobSearch UK, a national jobs guide paper among a claimed 10,000 of its readers, puts Richard Branson, the head of Virgin, far ahead as the most admired businessman, with 83 per cent of the total, followed by Sir John Harvey-Jones at 8 per cent and Lord Hanson at 3 per cent. Anita Roddick, the founder of Body Shop, is the most admired businesswoman.

Mr Branson is also the person unemployed people would most like to swap lives with.

With 40 per cent of the votes, Mr Blair is seen as the most caring politican and Mr Portillo as the least caring by 31 per cent. Mr Blair is followed by Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal leader, with 32 per cent, and Mr Portillo by Virginia Bottomley, the Health Secretary, at 25 per cent. John Major is said by 43 per cent of those surveyed to be the "most irritating" politician.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.32	2.15
Austria Sch	16.64	15.14
Belgium Fr	48.83	44.53
Canada $	2.304	2.144
Cyprus CypE	0.750	0.666
Denmark Kr	9.38	8.55
Finland Mkk	7.42	6.77
France Fr	8.38	7.73
Germany Dm	2.38	2.17
Greece Dr	380.00	355.00
Hong Kong $	13.14	12.14
Ireland Pr	1.03	0.95
Israel	5.2901	4.5401
Italy Lira	2805.00	2650.00
Japan Yen	149.00	133.00
Malta	0.605	0.550
Netherlds Gld	2.641	2.411
Norway Kr	10.63	9.83
Portugal Esc	246.50	228.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.43
Spain Pts	205.50	192.50
Sweden Kr	12.45	11.65
Switzerland Fr	1.96	1.78
Turkey Lira	refer	69321.0
USA $	1.713	1.583

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

هكذا من الأصل

☐ Investment banking going cheap ☐ Guinness aids Thalidomide victims ☐ C&W demands high price for Mercury

The woes of Warburg

☐ THE negotiations over SG Warburg have all the elegance of a haggle in a Moroccan rug market. A day after Warburg reluctantly announced it was plotting to sell its investment banking business to Swiss Bank Corporation, it has effectively told the market that the business is not worth that much anyway, since profits collapsed last week. SBC must have already guessed that Warburg had a tough year in 1994 — most international investment banks did — but Warburg seems to be going out of its way to undermine its own negotiating position and ensure it is sold off as cheaply as possible.

Now Mercury Asset Management seems to have caught the souk fever and is eyeing up anyone with deep enough pockets to take it over. It would struggle hard though to sell itself as short as its parent.

In the past six months, Warburg has handled its affairs with breathtaking incompetence. Some time around last autumn, when profits were plunging, the group seems to have panicked. It threw itself into ill-fated talks with Morgan Stanley and rationalised the move to investors as an unmissable opportunity to gain access to American retail investors.

Now the suitor is SBC and the story has changed. Warburg now claims to believe that the days of the independent investment bank are numbered, thanks to their lack of capital, and it is obliged to throw in its lot with the first decent-sized commercial bank that comes along. This belief stems in part from the collapse of Barings. The Bank of England's refusal to stand behind one of the City's most respected merchant banks has profoundly shocked its peer group. As ING came in to sweep up the pieces of Barings, the inevitable conclusion was that the future belonged to the big battalions who could absorb Leeson-sized losses without going bust.

This argument is persuasive, but deeply flawed. The only thing that capital allows an investment bank to do is lose it. Most of Warburg's most successful businesses, particularly corporate finance, are not capital intensive. There is no divine rule that requires every investment bank to be sheltered in the coat-tails of a commercial bank.

While Warburg's strategic vision can at least be respected, its tactics are astonishingly naive. If the bank believes it has no long-term future, it owes it to its shareholders to repair the current damage to its profit and loss account through judicious cost-cutting and revenue growth. It could then look for a buyer in two to three years' time when the business is back on an even keel, and demand a much higher price. Warburg's own corporate financiers would advise any of their clients to do this. By pulling the emergency cable now and jumping into the arms of SBC, which is only really interested in the bank's client list, Warburg is selling its shareholders, and the whole City, short.

Charity is good for you

☐ THE GMB union, one of Britain's biggest and brightest, is thinking of challenging donations of big companies such as Hanson to the Conservative Party, on the grounds that they may be *ultra vires*. As *The Times* revealed on Monday, the GMB reckons this might hold if companies derive no clear benefit



from specific Tory policies, or if they have not traded well under recent Tory rule.

Presumably, the GMB will not challenge charitable giving on the same narrow financial grounds. If it did, Guinness might be in trouble. It has just pledged £37.5 million over 15 years to top up the Thalidomide Trust, which needs more money to help thalidomide victims lead decent lives than was expected when it was set up.

In no sense did Guinness have a legal obligation. Legal settlements were made by Distillers decades before Guinness bought it. It could be claimed that Guinness had a moral obligation as inheritor of Distillers, one-time parent of the company that sold thalidomide to the mothers of trust beneficiaries. Sceptics might also note that Guinness has earned gratitude rather than the public opprobrium that might have attended a protest at its annual meeting in a fortnight's time. Guinness itself cited the Irish brewer's long tradition of charitable works.

Such traditions, sometimes associated with the same strong-minded entrepreneurs who funded the Tory party, show the other side of the "improper" use of shareholders' funds. As the old patriarchs gradually retire from the scene, many companies are dropping donations to party funds. Some are as fed up as voters in by-elections, and no longer see Labour as a big threat. Others reckon such matters should be left to individual shareholders.

Fortunately, few extend that attitude to charitable donations, usually much bigger than political favours. Instead, more are convinced of their charitable obligations, say to local communities, and realise that appearing to be a good citizen helps their image, particularly with staff. Who knows what shareholders think? But Guinness shares rose by 1.2 per cent yesterday, outpacing the market average.

AT&T short on sweet talk

☐ IT IS common knowledge that Cable and Wireless and AT&T have been chatting to each other about the future of Mercury Communications. C&W is not wedded to its 80 per cent stake in Mercury, and AT&T, now equipped with a full telecoms operating licence, is looking for a way to enter the British market in style.

It is also assumed that any deal struck between the two would favour AT&T, which, drawing on its New York pedigree, is well-known as a bully when it comes to negotiating foreign acquisitions and alliances. But this time around, AT&T appears to have met its match.

C&W has made it clear to AT&T that it wants more than just cash for Mercury; a sweetener or two would be nice. C&W, for example, is open to suggestions on how AT&T could help strengthen its American business. In relative terms C&W has a greater presence in Latvia than it does in the US, where it owns only about 1 per cent of the long-distance market.

AT&T has either come up short on ideas, or is playing hardball on the price. Whatever the case, the British company, after more than a year of talks, isn't budging. Neither can C&W realistically deliver its entire stake in Mercury. The political outcry would be furious, since C&W has been built up as a British telecoms champion. C&W is gambling that AT&T needs Mercury more than C&W needs AT&T. Mercury has certainly been bruised in its battle with BT, but C&W isn't about to let it go cheaply.

Hello, it's over

☐ Hurrah, the property recession is over! Forget the rotten housing market, empty shops and falling commercial rents because the golden hello is back in fashion. Frogmore Estates is paying millions to secure the services of a surveyor by purchasing his firm. Less fortunate estate agents should stop waiting for their redundancy cheques and post their CVs to Frogmore.



TONY WHITE

All smiles: Martin Broughton, BAT chief executive, left, and David Allvey, finance director, yesterday

BAT reaches a record £498m in first quarter

BY COLIN NARBROUGH

BAT INDUSTRIES, the tobacco-to-insurance group, made a record pre-tax profit of £498 million in the first quarter as profits from tobacco surged, despite a trend against smoking in many countries.

Martin Broughton, the chief executive, vigorously attacked the Personal Investment Authority (PIA) and the Government for the difficult conditions in Britain for BAT's financial services arm, whose trading profit was only 10 per cent ahead at £240 million.

On the issue of mis-selling of personal pensions, he said the PIA was still digging up new cases and even asking for companies to scrutinise deals where the would-be customer withdrew during the cooling-off period. The level of reinstatement costs envisaged was also "totally unrealistic".

Mr Broughton said the Government had to take a lead on the reinstatement cost question and the PIA should give guidance on how costs are calculated. If no action were taken, consumers would turn to the courts.

BAT called the 19 per cent rise in pre-tax profits in the first three months a "very encouraging start" to 1995. Earnings per share rose 16 per cent to 9.6p. The first-quarter net profit climbed £51 million to £319 million.

Sir Patrick Sheehy, the chairman, promised the annual meeting last week "significant real increase in the dividend".

Mr Broughton said tobacco was the first quarter's "star performer", with trading profits up 27 per cent at £335 million and total cigarette volumes up 24 per cent. B&W, BAT's US subsidiary, whose results for the first time included American Tobacco, bought last year for $1 billion, saw profits rise almost 50 per cent. Brazil had a strong recovery.

Mr Broughton said on a like-for-like basis, cigarette volumes were up 14 per cent and BAT expected to raise its world market share in cigarettes from 10.6 per cent at the end of 1994 as it expands in Asia, Eastern Europe, Middle East and Latin America. David Allvey, finance director, said the integration of American Tobacco with BAT's other US tobacco operations was "on track" to give $100 million savings this year. In financial services, general business rose 7 per cent to £135 million and life and investment business 14 per cent to £105 million. Farmers, the US insurance arm, raised profits 14 per cent to £140 million.

Eagle Star's profit was flat at £37 million. Although investment returns were higher, softer rates and falling premiums in the general business caused a drop in the underwriting result, with UK personal lines down £10 million. Allied Dunbar maintained its contribution to group profit at £44 million, despite a 24 per cent fall in premium income to £346 million.

Tempus, page 28

Frogmore buys new director

FROGMORE Estates, the property company, is buying itself a new managing director for up to £3 million. (Carl Mortished writes).

Paul White is to join the board of Frogmore after selling White Druce & Brown, a firm of consultant surveyors of which he owns a half share, for up to £6 million in cash and shares.

White Druce & Brown had total revenues in the year to June 30 of just £1 million. Frogmore, which has net assets of £252 million and made profits of £16 million last year, said it had bought the firm of surveyors from Chromeland — a company owned by Mr White and Joe Malvisi who is also joining Frogmore — for £4 million because it had a high regard for the business and its management.

Progress at Fox gives boost to News Corp

BY OUR FINANCIAL STAFF

CONTINUING strong gains in the Fox television businesses in America helped The News Corporation, the Australian international media group, to lift net after-tax profits by 24 per cent to A$964 million (£435 million) in the nine months to March 31. Worldwide sales grew by 6.5 per cent, to A$8.97 billion.

In the latest three months, sales accelerated, gaining 11 per cent to A$2.9 billion. Group net profit, helped also by higher British newspaper profits, grew by 28 per cent to A$291 million before abnormal items left A$251 million (A$228 million). Earnings rose from 7 cents to 9 cents per share. Profits would have shown a sharper rise in the group accounts but for the weakness of the American dollar. However, profits were slightly higher than some analysts had expected, partly because of a low tax charge.

Profit gains came from the dominant American businesses, which increased operating profit before tax and interest from A$209 million to A$275 million in the latest quarter and from A$767 million to A$879 million over the nine months, out of a total of A$1,214 million (A$1,165 million).

UK profits were up in the third quarter, but still stagnant over nine months.

In Australia and the Pacific Rim, where the group is still at an early stage in developing its Star TV interests, profit stabilised in the latest quarter after falling markedly in the first half.

In America, both the owned Fox television stations and the Fox broadcasting network performed strongly. Operating profit in the third quarter was 50 per cent higher than a year earlier. Television station revenue was 27 per cent higher. Twentieth Century Fox film profits dropped in the third quarter, however, because of two disappointing launches.

In Britain, where News Corp owns *The Times*, as well as *The Sunday Times*, *Today*, *The Sun* and *News of the World*, newspaper interests raised operating profits by more than a third compared with the same quarter a year ago, boosted by a 14 per cent gain in revenue.

Over the nine-month period, all the group's British titles improved their adverising revenue, with *The Times* showing the strongest gains. News Corp said that circulation of *The Times* had reached 630,000, 34 per cent more than in March last year.

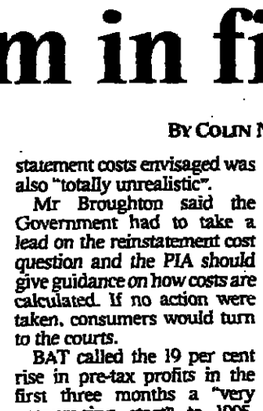
Three lead Abbey as N&P suitors

BY PATRICIA TEHAN

ALLIANCE & Leicester, the Nationwide and the Woolwich building societies have emerged as preferred front runners for a link-up with National & Provincial, Britain's ninth biggest society.

The society appears keen to merge with another building society and then to convert to bank status. Alastair Lyons, chief executive of N&P, has refused to comment on which organisations he is talking to. But he said yesterday that he was "surprised and irritated" with the way that Abbey National expressed an interest in buying the society.

He said Abbey had made a public statement about its intentions when a meeting had already been organised. He was "irritated by the smoke screens" put up by Abbey and its suggestions that "building society boards have their heads in the sand and are not acting in the best interests of their members".



Lyons: irritated

Mr Lyons and Peter Birch, Abbey's chief executive, met for the first time on Monday to discuss the issue. Mr Lyons said yesterday the meeting was "amicable", but he was "surprised how unformulated Peter Birch's thinking was. He said that N&P would not make a decision on its way forward until it had seen the proposals from potential bidders in the middle of this month. Even then, he said, "there is no set timescale".

Prestige lures man who revived Parker

BY MARTIN BARROW

JACQUES MARGRY, the executive who transformed a £10.3 million investment in Parker Pens into a £285 million windfall, has been lured out of semi-retirement to restore the fortunes of another ailing household name, Prestige.

Mr Margry heads the management team put in place at Prestige, one of Britain's leading manufactures of kitchenware, after its acquisition from Gallaher in a deal believed to be worth about £37 million, announced yesterday.

Prestige's stainless steel cookware, pressure cookers and kitchen tools are still considered essential accessories in homes. But the business has incurred annual losses of between £5 million and £10 million over the past five years, on sales of about £60 million annually.

Cost reductions are anticipated at the company's UK manufacturing operation in Burnley, where about 400 people are employed. Another 600 people work for Prestige outside Britain.

Mr Margry, who becomes chairman of Prestige, led the acquisition of Parker Pens from Manpower in 1986. He twice attempted to float it on the stock market without success and saw a proposed sale to Pentland Group collapse. Then, in 1993, a deal was struck with Gillete.

That deal netted Schroder Ventures, original backers of the buy-out from Manpower, a profit of £110 million. Jon Moulton, formerly head of Schroders, now calls the shots at Apax Partners, the venture capital group that has financed the acquisition of Prestige.

☐ Gallaher continues to negotiate the sale of Forbuoys, the 700-strong chain of confectionery and tobacconist outlets. There are at least four offers by venture capital groups on the table, in addition to a bid by the existing management.

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STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

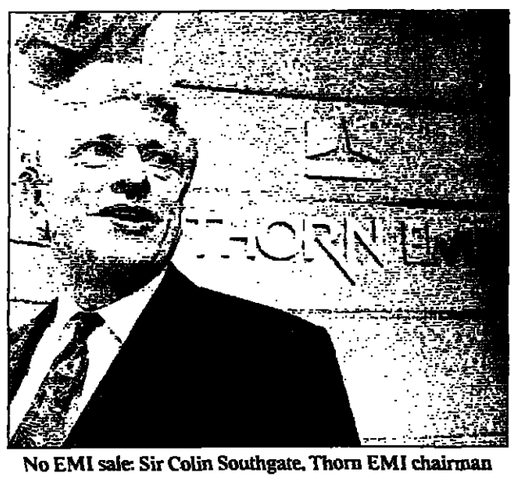
Shares hit new high as Dow sets the standard

THE London stock market managed to extend this week's record-breaking run with even the most pessimistic traders forecasting that further gains are on the way. After reaching an intra-trading high for the year of 3,267.3 earlier in the day, the FT-SE 100 index was eventually left sporting a rise of 14.4 to close at a new 1995 high of 3,262.6. It was supported to a certain extent by an early gain of almost 30 points in the Dow Jones average during early trading in New York.

The only wobble came around lunchtime, after S G Warburg issued its third profits warning within the space of seven months and Thorn EMI scuppered talk of a bid for its music business. But prices quickly recovered their poise, cheered by some positive trading statements from three leading companies. Once again, turnover levels left a lot to be desired with less than 600 million shares changing hands by the close of business. But this week's positive performance from the equity market has shown up a number of short positions among market-makers.

Even so S G Warburg remained the main talking point in the Square Mile yesterday. Less than 24 hours after announcing it was considering a break-up bid for its investment banking arm from the Swiss Bank Corporation, came news of yet another profits warning. The group said that pre-tax profits for the year to March 31, just ended, are expected to be significantly below the current range of market estimates. Brokers had already braced themselves for a sharp fall on the previous year's £297 million, with most of them looking for pre-tax profits of between £90 million and £150 million. They have now revised their estimates down to between £40 million and £75 million.

The expected loss of around £100 million appears to have scuppered any remaining hopes of an all-out bid for the company. Even so Warburg ended the day just 7p lower at 814p. Low stock market volumes have meant a tough time for the investment banking arm, but Warburg's quoted offshoot, **Mercury Asset Management**, has matched expectations. The announcement also means that Swiss Bank will reduce the amount it is ready to pay for the business.



No EMI sale: Sir Colin Southgate, Thorn EMI chairman

A figure of up to £800 million had been mentioned. Mercury Asset Management finished the session 17p lower at 844p. It was MAM which objected to last December's proposed merger with Morgan Stanley, another US investment bank.

Thorn EMI retreated 24p to £11.64 after it finally moved to deny claims that it was planning to sell its EMI Music division to Walt Disney. A statement issued by the company following the intense speculation of the past few days said the company was not in discussions with any third party, and has no intention of entering upon such discussions. Reports in the US financial press claimed that Walt Disney was ready to offer at least £3 billion for the music business.

Better than expected full-year figures lifted **Whitbread** 10p to 573p as pre-tax profits grew almost 18 per cent to £275.4 million. Sir Michael Angus, the chairman, said the current year had started well with the group's pubs, Beefeater restaurants and hotel division all trading well. Whitbread planned to create an extra 5,000 jobs.

Reuters, the international information group, finished 20p better at 491p as it prepared to repair some of the damage created by last week's statement about falling revenue. Last night the group gave a presentation to the New York investment community at which it showed off its latest technology.

A strong performance from its tobacco division lifted first-quarter pre-tax profits from **BAT Industries** 19 per cent to £498 million. Profits from tobacco were 27 per cent ahead, helped by a first time contribution from last year's acquisition of American Tobacco and a recovery in Brazil. The contribution from its financial services operations, which includes Eagle Star, Allied Dunbar and Farmers in the US, rose 10 per cent to £240 million. Sir Patrick Sheehy, chairman, reiterated last week's comments of a substantial increase in full-year profits. The shares ended 3p lower at 474p.

Tate & Lyle firmed 3p to 445p, cheered by a 7 per cent increase in the interim dividend to 5p. This followed a 17 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £152.8 million. Most of the improvement came from Europe, while North America remained flat.

Micro Focus dropped 37p to 733p after announcing plans to shed 75 jobs as part of a major cost-cutting programme designed to save £8 million a year. Net revenues in the first quarter dropped from £20.2 million to £17.9 million, producing a net loss of £4.2 million.

The electricity distributors remained overshadowed by the continuing row about electricity charges and the uncertainty generated by Professor Stephen Littlechild's determination to impose tougher price controls. Falls were recorded in **East Midland**, 11p to 643p, **Eastern**, 15p to 622p, **Manweb**, 6p to 675p, **Midlands**, 10p to 636p, **Northern**, 10p to 810p, **South West**, 8p to 664p, **Southern**, 14p to 650p and **Yorkshire**, 16p to 653p.

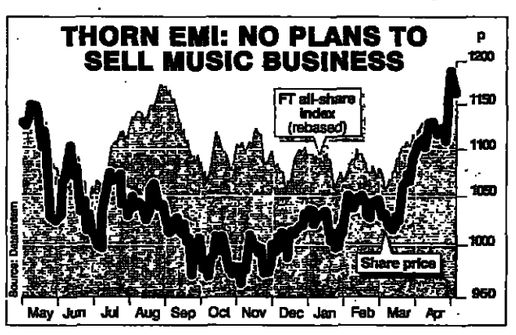
T&N, the automotive parts group, stood out with a gain of 10p to 164p amid talk of progress about asbestosis claims.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** Prices enjoyed a better session after being squeezed higher in thin trading. Most issues closed near their best of the day following some better than expected leading indicators in the US.

In futures, the June series of the long gilt finished £17/32 higher at £104¼, with turnover levels continuing to bump along the bottom. By the close only 31,000 contracts had been traded.

Among conventional issues Treasury 8 per cent 2013 climbed £17/32 to £97¼, while at the shorter end Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £¼ better at £98 13/16.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Shares on Wall Street extended their gains into late morning on continued optimism that the economy was heading for a soft landing. The Dow Jones industrial average at midday was up 17.29 points at 4,346.17.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):		
Dow Jones	4346.17	(+17.29)
S&P Composite	517.26	(+2.40)
Tokyo:		
Nikkei Average	Closed	
Hong Kong:		
Hang Seng	8299.67	(+87.56)
Amsterdam:		
EOE Index	424.30	(+1.80)
Sydney:		
AO	2037.6	(+11.3)
Frankfurt:		
DAX	2028.68	(-7.24)
Singapore:		
Straits	2066.35	(-4.16)
Brussels:		
General	7479.37	(+53.14)
Paris:		
CAC-40	1971.07	(+34.22)
Zurich:		
SKA Gen	609.80	(+2.60)
London:		
FT 30	2482.9	(+13.8)
FT 100	3262.6	(+14.4)
FT-SE Mid 250	3548.7	(+5.9)
FT-SE-A 350	1618.0	(+6.2)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1324.91	(+2.97)
FT A All-Share	1598.05	(+6.17)
FT Non Financials	1724.52	(+5.66)
FT Fixed Interest	110.92	(+0.21)
FT Govt Secs	92.09	(+0.21)
Bargains	36580	
SEAQ Volume	697.4m	
USM (Datastrm)	151.40	(+0.33)
US$	1.6160	(+0.0035)
German Mark	2.2212	(+0.0048)
Exchange Index	84.6	(+0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)		
£:ECU	1.1997	
£:SDR	1.0256	
RPI	147.5 Mar (3.5%) Jan 1987=100	

RECENT ISSUES

Biocomp Int (170)	171	...
Brit Aero Cap Uts p/p	726	...
Coral Products (60)	63	...
Dumyat IT Cv An Div	105	...
Dumyat IT Mthly Div	105	...
Edinburgh Japan Tst C	102	...
Finsbury World Pharm	100	...
For/Col Spec Utll (100)	100	...
Geared Inc Inv C	85	...
General Cable (190)	178½	+4½
Ivory/Sime Discy Uts	490	+10
Natl Power (p/p) (476)	182	+ ½
Precoat Int'l (125)	131	+3
Rainford (270)	320	+4
Schroder Growth Fd	105	...
Schroder Growth Wts	27	...
Scot Ornti Sml Co (100)	100	...
Vision Group (97)	140	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Bolton Group n/p (23)	½	...
Roskel n/p (92)	11	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:		
Britannic	526p	(+14p)
Bass	568p	(+11p)
Whitbread	573p	(+10p)
Johnston	310p	(+15p)
Northamber	128p	(+10p)
Charter	838p	(+11p)
Cobham	332p	(+12p)
Fairline Boats	407p	(+23p)
Laird	347p	(+10p)
T&N	164p	(+10p)
Greencore	449p	(+10p)
General Accident	576p	(+14p)
Burmah Castrol	885p	(+15p)
Debenham Tewson	77p	(+8p)
Rowlinson Secs	115p	(+8p)
Reckitt Colman	659p	(+14p)
J Beattie 'A'	145p	(+12p)
LBMS	165p	(+10p)
Royal Doulton	268p	(+14p)
FALLS:		
Danka Bus Systems	356p	(-17p)
Border TV	220p	(-12p)
Micro Focus	733p	(-37p)
Essex Furn	113p	(-16p)
Lloyds Chemist	210p	(-10p)

Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS

Powerful brew

AMID all the fuss about new jobs and investment in restaurants, hotels and family-friendly pubs, Whitbread's performance in the dull business of brewing and selling beer has received little attention. That is unfortunate because Whitbread has scored large successes in the brewing department and its strategy speaks volumes about the business of selling branded drinks.

Brewing profits edged up 8 per cent last year but more important, the return on assets also improved, suggesting Whitbread is making more from less. The key to its strategy has been a focus on premium brands whichare significantly outperforming the market. Stella Artois, a dull middle-market beer in Belgium, grew 20 per cent in Britain last year compared with the 12 per cent increase in national sales of premium lager. Murphy's, once an obscure Irish brew, has in the space of five years under Whitbread management, has taken over 13 per cent of the stout market in Britain, to the considerable embarrassment of Guinness.

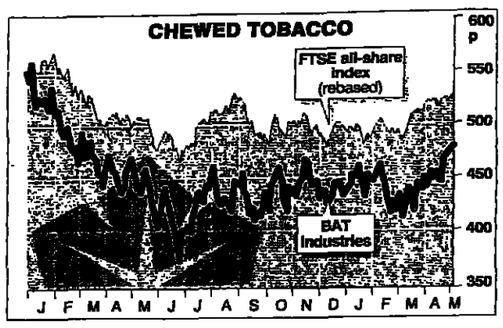
Aggressive and focussed marketing is the trick: having seen the market leader in stout target a younger audience with ever more bizarre ads, Murphy's leapt through the door left open by Guinness, emphasising Murphy's Irishness. Marketing is what Whitbread is all about, hence the drive to build up retail and leisure sales with the emphasis on food and families. But building restaurants does not preclude a brewing investment and investors should not be surprised if Whitbread picks up some more brewing assets with the aim of taking a local drink on a national tour.

BAT

NEVER overgenerous with information, BAT is being true to form in its unwillingness to reveal the contribution of American Tobacco, its recent acquisition, to group profits.

That is a shame because the American adventure is shaping up to be every bit as successful as it first promised, and is already making a real contribution to earnings. By removing its sales force and administration at a stroke, BAT has enhanced the business's profitability 50 per cent and it could well generate $300 million this year. Profits will take a further leap forward next year when American's plant in North Carolina is closed.

Such momentum in tobacco allows BAT to ride out its troubles in financial services. BAT is indeed fortunate that it has no need to chase volume at Eagle Star as the insurance cycle turns. The 8 per cent fall in general premium income there shows how risk-averse the business has become. The problems at Allied Dunbar are more intractable, and it will be years before public faith in the life assurance industry is restored. BAT has used several financial devices in recent years to cut borrowings, particularly enhanced-scrip and foreign-income dividends. Now gearing is below 50 per cent and earnings are rising, the group should reward shareholders with no strings. A full-year dividend of 24p is not beyond reach. That would put the shares on an attractive 6.3 per cent yield.



Tate & Lyle

IN SPITE of producing a seemingly relentless stream of solid results, Tate & Lyle can never convince the City that it is a growth stock with a gleaming future.

The sugar group was rewarded for a 17 per cent rise in interim profits and a 8 per cent rise in its dividend by a miserly 3p rise in its shares to 443p. The upbeat trading statement may have added £15 million to profit forecasts but it failed to win favour among investors.

The entrenched view in the City is that Tate is operating in a cyclical industry. However skilled it is at stripping out costs and chasing expanding markets, the overriding issue is the performance of Staley, the North American starch and cereal sweeteners operation. Staley has grown exponentially and the market expects it to account for 40 per cent of the group's current year profits of about £310 million. With volume growth of about 10 per cent and operating margins close to 20 per cent, there are inevitable doubts over whether Staley can sustain this growth. The business is as prone to the innate cyclicality of the sweetener market as any of its rivals, no matter how low its unit costs. Such reservations are likely to restrain the shares, which trade on 12 times current year earnings forecasts.

Thorn EMI

THORN has belatedly scotched the rumours that it was planning to sell off its music business to Disney, an unlikely story that nevertheless gained some credence in the market. One side effect with the Stock Exchange's clampdown on loose talk is that companies find it difficult to deny market gossip, so that such tittle-tattle gains a life of its own.

The story always had its weak points. Disney may well want to diversify into music, but EMI is Thorn's prize asset, which it would be loath to sell outright. In addition, the suggested price of $5 billion always looked too low for a business with such a strong artist list and back catalogue.

But the fact the tale was believed and moved the market shows that no one really believes Thorn is a stable business yet. A demerger of the music and rental divisions could return to the agenda once Thorn resolves the tax problems that prevent it. In addition, the group still seems keen to buy a publisher to develop itself into a fully fledged media group. Following the acquisition of Dillons, the group already has distribution channel for the printed word, in the same way that HMV is a key music retail outlet. Whatever the group decides, its shareholders are in for a few more thrills and spills as the rumours ebb and flow.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

May	952-950	Jul	1067-1061
Jul	976-975	Sep	1078-1071
Sep	997-995	Dec	1096-1083
Dec	1022-1021	Mar	1113-1105
Mar	1043-1042		
May	1065-1053	Volume: 802	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

May	3115-3111	Jan	3078-3070
Jul	3138-3136	Mar	3066-3048
Sep	3105-3101	May	3058-3028
Nov	3090-3085	Volume: 1635	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	297.5-96.1
Spot: 360.3		May	297.5-95.5
Aug	336.5-35.5	Aug	297.9-95.2
Oct	306.0-04.5	Oct	284.9-82.0
Dec	299.0-97.5	Volume: 838	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on May 2

	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	91.92	117.03	131.09
(+/-)	+1.54	-0.92	-0.26
England/Wales:	92.03	117.76	119.85
(+/-)	+1.45	-9.48	-0.34
(%)	-11.0	-8.0	-21.0
Scotland:	90.66	105.06	124.97
(+/-)	+2.12	-16.96	-0.76
(%)	-26.0	+1.0	-15.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.40	-0.50
Brent 15 day (Jun)	18.55	-0.45
Brent 15 day (Jul)	18.15	-0.40
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	19.90	-0.45
W Texas Intermediate (Jul)	19.75	-0.35

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas 15	B: 205 (n/c)	O: 207 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	160 (-1)	161 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Jun	158 (-1)	160 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Jul	157 (-1)	159 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	106 (n/c)	108 (n/c)
Naphtha	176 (+3)	178 (+3)

LPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

May	156.75-57.00	Aug	155.75-56.00
Jun	155.75-56.00	Sep	157.00-57.25
Jul	155.00-55.25	Vol. 9897	

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jun	18.55-18.57	Sep	17.63-17.66
Jul	18.17-18.20	Oct	unq
Aug	17.89-17.90	Vol: 27118	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
May	117.80	May	112.75
Jul	119.40	Sep	103.35
Sep	104.30	Nov	105.25
Nov	105.35	Jan	107.25
Jan	107.20	Mar	109.25
Volume: 379		Volume: 66	

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
May	292.5	290.0
Apr	127.0	131.3
May	unq	149.0
	Volume: 23	

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Jun ——— 118.75-119.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
May 95	2290	2270	2268
Jun 95	2176	2160	2157
Jul 95	2020	1970	1980
Oct 95	1900	1874	1890
Vol: 451 lots		Open interest: 4317	
	Index 2344 -7		

(Official) (Volume prev day)

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE — **Rudolf Wolff**

	Cash:	3mth:	Vol:
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2746.0-2747.0	2728.0-2729.0	16!6400
Lead ($/tonne)	605.00-606.00	617.00-618.00	177125
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1067.0-1067.5	1090.0-1090.5	448125
Tin ($/tonne)	5955.0-5956.0	5945.0-5950.0	28930
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1778.0-1780.0	1760.0-17!0.0	1620850
Nickel ($/tonne)	6990.0-6995.0	7095.0-7100.0	89934

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Calls			Puts		
Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Allid Dom. 550	19½	28	37	20½	25	33
(*557) 600	4½	10½	18	59½	60	65
Argyll 280	17½	24	28½	8½	13	16½
(*282) 300	7	14	19½	30	24	27
ASDA 80	5½	7	8½	3½	4½	6
(*81) 90	1½	3	4½	10	10½	12
Boots 500	32½	41½	47½	9½	13½	17½
(*526) 550	6½	17½	23	38½	41	43½
Br Airways 340	27½	35	42	10	15½	20
(*340½) 420	11	20½	27	26	31½	35
BP 420	41	48½	55	3½	7½	10
(*457) 460	14	23½	31	17	23	25½
Br Steel 160	14	17	19	3½	6	7½
(*170) 180	4	7½	9½	14½	17	18
C & W 390	29½	39	46	9½	14	18
(*410) 420	13	23½	30½	24½	29	33
CU 550	42½	51½	62	10½	19	25
(*576½) 600	16	26	37	34	44½	50½
ICI 700	59	69½	83	6½	15½	20½
(*744) 750	26	39	54	34½	35½	41
Kingfishr 420	49	58	66½	4½	11	15
(*459½) 460	21½	33	42½	18	26	31
Land Sec 550	31	35	42	12½	18½	20½
(*574½) 600	5	12½	19½	46½	49	49½
M & S 420	17	27	34	11½	17½	19
(*428) 460	3	10½	16½	39½	42½	43
Nat West 500	55	65½	75	5	11½	12
(*547½) 550	23½	34½	45	20	31	35
Sainsbury 420	22	32	39	9½	13½	17½
(*430) 460	4½	13	20	34	36½	39½
Shell 750	25	40½	49½	15½	25½	29
(*752½) 800	6½	18½	26½	49½	56	58
Smkl Bch 460	44	57½	61	4	11½	15½
(*497) 500	18½	28	38	18	27½	32
Storehse 240	13	20	23½	9	11	13
(*245) 260	4½	9	14	21	22½	24
Trafalgar 50	8	10	11½	1½	3	4
(*56) 60	3	5	7	9	7½	9½
Unilever 1200	63	92½	109	14½	25	31
(*1234) 1250	31½	62½	79	35	46	51½
Zeneca 900	43½	60	80	20½	35	42½
(*910½) 950	20½	36	56	48½	61½	68½

	Calls			Puts		
Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Grnd Met. 360	13	23	31	2½	12	16
(*400) 420	1	9	16½	14½	22	23½
Ladbroke 180	5½	12½	17	2½	8	10½
(*182½) 200	0	4½	8½	17½	20	22
Utd Bisc 330	22½	34½	40½	1	6½	11½
(*351) 360	3½	16½	24	12	18½	25

	Calls			Puts		
Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
BAA 460	25	34½	41½	10½	15	19
(*473½) 500	7½	16	22½	34½	37½	40½
Thames W 460	31½	35	39	12½	18	23½
(*483½) 500	8	16	20½	36½	41	45½

	Calls			Puts		
Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
BAT Ind 460	17½	33	40	4	17	22½
(*473½) 500	1½	13½	21	27½	39½	44
BTR 330	6	17½	23	4½	10½	17
(*332) 360	0	6	10½	28	29½	35½
Br Aero 550	23	—	—	6	—	—
(*549) 580	2½	—	—	34	—	—
Br Telcm 360	11½	21	26	2	14	17
(*399) 420	0½	7	12½	21	33	35
Cadbury 440	7½	24½	—	6	14½	—
(*448½) 480	0	9	—	32½	39½	—
Guinness 460	18	33½	40½	2	11	15½
(*478) 500	1½	13	20	25½	31½	36
GEC 300	10½	17½	21	1½	10½	12½
(*308) 330	0½	4½	8	22	30½	31½
Hanson 220	16	19	23	0	3½	6
(*235½) 240	2	7½	11	6	12	15½
LASMO 160	17	22	27	0	3½	5
(*176½) 180	2½	9½	15½	9½	10½	12½
Lucas 180	17	23½	27½	0	3½	7½
(*196½) 200	3	11½	16	6	12	16½
Pilkington 180	4	9	13	4	9	11
(*180) 200	0	2	6	20	23½	24½
Prudential 300	21	29½	35	1	4	9
(*323) 330	2	12½	18½	12	16½	22½
Redland 390	30½	44½	51	0	6½	12
(*419) 420	7½	26½	33	0½	17½	24½
R-Royce 180	7½	15½	18½	2	7	10½
(*194½) 200	0½	7	9½	15½	18½	21½
Tesco 260	13	21	26	1	5	8
(*272) 280	1	9½	15	9½	14	17½
Vodafone 180	17½	22	28	0	4	6½
(*196½) 200	3½	10½	17	6	12	15
Williams 330	9	21½	25½	2½	9	14½
(*336½) 360	0	8	11½	23½	26½	31½

FT-SE INDEX (*3261½)

	3150	3200	3250	3300	3350	3400
Calls						
May	128½	82	45	20	7½	2
Jun	144	105	71	44½	25½	13½
Jul	169	132½	102½	75½	53½	37
Aug	184½	149	118	90½	66½	47½
Dec	—	220	—	163½	—	116½
Puts						
May	4½	10	21½	47	88½	138½
Jun	17	27	43	67½	103	140½
Jul	32	45	65	89½	118½	153½
Aug	42	56½	75	98	125½	158½
Dec	—	100½	—	143½	—	198

	Calls			Puts		
Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Abbey Nat 460	24	34½	43	6½	14½	18½
(*473½) 500	9½	19½	29½	29½	30½	39
Amstrad 200	11	17	23	6	10	13
(*203½) 220	3½	8½	14½	18½	21½	24
Barclays 650	24½	38½	53	14½	28	36
(*654) 700	6	17	31	47½	57½	64
Blue Circ 280	16	25½	30½	6	12	16
(*288) 300	6½	15½	20½	16½	22½	26
Br Gas 300	10½	17	21½	7	10½	15½
(*309½) 330	0½	5½	9	30½	31½	34½
Dixons 220	20	25	27	2½	7½	10
(*236) 240	7½	11½	16	9½	12½	14½
Forte 220	14	20½	24	2½	5½	8
(*229½) 240	3½	10	13½	12½	15	17½
Hillsdwn 180	10	16	20	3	5½	7½
(*186½) 200	1½	8	10½	14½	16½	18
Lonrho 160	10½	14½	18½	3½	7	9
(*165½) 180	2½	6	9	15½	19	20½
Sears 100	9½	10½	12	1	2½	3
(*108) 110	2½	5	7	5½	7	8
Thrn Emi 1150	44½	64½	73½	19½	40½	48
(*1166½) 1200	21	37½	51½	45	70	78½
Tomkins 240	10½	15½	20	6	12	15
(*243) 260	3	7	11½	18½	24½	26½
TSB 240	20	26½	31	4	9	11
(*254½) 260	9	15½	20½	12½	18½	20
Wellcome 1000	70	75½	—	0	1½	—
(*1068½) 1050	24½	32	—	3	10½	—

	Calls			Puts		
Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Glaxo Well 700	58½	73	82	9½	24½	32½
(*740½) 750	28	43½	54½	29½	40	46
HSBC 200	67½	85	101	15½	29	37
(*743) 750	38	57	75	35	51	60
Reuter 460	41½	52½	63	7½	13	17
(*498½) 500	18½	29	40	24½	30	34½

	Calls			Puts		
Series	May	Jul	Oct	May	Jul	Oct
Royal Ins 300	19½	27	32½	1	7	12½
(*317) 330	3	10½	17½	14½	21½	27½

	Calls			Puts		
Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Fisons 180	15	22	28	5	9	12
(*188) 200	6	13	19½	15½	19½	22½

	Calls			Puts		
Series	May	Aug	Nov	May	Aug	Nov
Eastern Gp 600	35½	44½	58½	3½	27	35
(*622) 650	2	19½	36	29½	56	63½

	Calls			Puts		
Series	Jun	Sep	Dec	Jun	Sep	Dec
Natl Pwr 420	37	49½	58	4	9½	12
(*453½) 460	9	18	27	23	28	31
Scot Pwr 330	16	23	29	7	10	19
(*337) 360	4½	9½	15½	25	34½	36½

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Jun 95	3272.0	3284.5	3265.0	3279.0	8683
Previous open interest: 72713	Sep 95				3302.0	0
FT-SE 250	Jun 95				3572.5	0
Previous open interest: 4060	Sep 95					0
Three Month Sterling	Jun 95	92.81	92.83	92.79	92.81	16034
Previous open interest: 387974	Sep 95	92.32	92.36	92.31	92.34	18597
	Dec 95	92.00	92.05	92.00	92.04	9595
Three Mth Eurodollar	Jun 95				93.76	0
Previous open interest: 1184	Sep 95				93.65	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Jun 95	95.43	95.45	95.42	95.44	12872
Previous open interest: 663852	Sep 95	95.28	95.31	95.27	95.31	21395
Long Gilt	Jun 95	103-24	104-06	103-19	104-04	31237
Previous open interest: 78422	Sep 95	103-15	103-16	103-15	103-24	2
Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 95	116.60	116.62	116.53	116.56	747
	Sep 95	115.71	115.72	115.67	115.68	541
German Gov Bd Bund	Jun 95	92.91	93.22	92.83	93.18	92674
Previous open interest: 172317	Sep 95	92.33	92.63	92.33	92.61	743
Three month ECU	Jun 95	93.56	93.59	93.54	93.58	1312
Previous open interest: 19035	Sep 95	93.50	93.54	93.49	93.54	529
Euro Swiss Franc	Jun 95	96.56	96.58	96.56	96.58	1398
Previous open interest: 42794	Sep 95	96.46	96.47	96.46	96.46	724
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun 95	96.15	96.63	95.90	96.46	38098
Previous open interest: 40121	Sep 95	95.50	95.85	95.50	95.76	520

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6%. Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5¾. Low 3½. Week fixed: 5½
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅝ : 3 mth 6½ . Sell: 2 mth 6⅜ : 3 mth: 6¾ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6⅜–6⅛	6⅜–6⅛	6⅜–6⅛	6⅜–6⅛	
Sterling Money Rates:	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	7-6¾	7–7⅛	7⅛–7⅜
Interbank:	6⅛–6⅛	6⅛–6⅛	7-6¾	7–7⅛	7⅛–7⅜
Overnight: open 5¾, close 3½ .					
Local Authority Deps:	6¾	n/a	6⅛	7¼	7⅜
Sterling CDs:	6¼–6¾	6⅜–6⅝	6⅛–6⅜	7⅛–7¼	7⅛–7⅜
Dollar CDs:	6.04	n/a	6.11	6.22	6.48
Building Society CDs:	6⅛–6⅜	6⅛–6⅜	7-6¾	7¼–7½	7⅛–7⅜

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Jan 31. 1995 Agreed rates Feb 28, 1995 to Mar 25. 1995 Scheme III: 7.87 %. Reference rate Dec 31, 1994

هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Getting a British bride

SG WARBURG'S winter of discontent, during which it was walked up the aisle, only to be left at the altar, is hardly spent when wedding bells peel again. The latest banns that link SG Warburg with Swiss Bank Corporation are not without interest for who is included in the wedding party. SBC's advisers are that very well connected merchant bank Hambro Magan. While the bank gurus are far too self effacing to admit to any individual role, I do detect the hand of George Magan, Murray Orr, and Sir Michael Richardson in helping to find a British bride for Switzerland's leading bank. Sir Michael, who turned 70 on April 9, has clearly lost none of his corporate touch. He joined Hambro Magan from Smith New Court/NM Rothschild only four months ago, and up pops a Warburg deal. Meanwhile, Warburg's dowry becomes thinner with yet another profits warning. Annual results that were otherwise due on May 29 will, Warburgs says, now be out no later than May 25. If I were a betting man, I would say results, together with SBC's formal document, could be out within the next ten days. Watch this space.

Spielberg saga

WHO would dare accuse Steven Spielberg of being a rip-off merchant? Apparently, a Florida-based company, which this week filed a lawsuit claiming he and his partners Jeffrey Katzenberg and David Geffen stole its name. DreamWorks, Spielberg's new studio, has already generated close to $1 billion in investment cash and could no doubt afford to pay the paltry $25 million demanded by Dreamwerks , of Boca Raton, as compensation for the "reverse confusion" that clients could suffer. Dreamwerks says it has organised promotional events for films such as *Dick Tracy* and *Batman*.



Spielberg: under fire

Fisons switch

LONG and faithful service obviously counts for little these days. Fisons wants a change of auditors from Price Waterhouse to Arthur Andersen. The annual report graciously notes: "The board wishes to express their appreciation to Price Waterhouse who have been the company's auditors since 1929."

Double delight

A DAY of double celebration for the Ellen family yesterday. Sue, managing director of BUPA Health Services, was one of the finalists in the Veuve Clicquot Business Women of the Year award, and husband Simon was made head of fixed interest and treasury at SG Warburg.

ACROSS the pond, Saatchi & Saatchi is not taking the desertion of British Airways lying down. A large advert in The New York Times *makes cryptic reference to "The World's Favourite Airline", the famous Saatchi slogan for BA. It reads simply: "So, who wants to be the next world's favourite?"*

COLIN CAMPBELL

ECONOMIC VIEW ANATOLE KALETSKY

Why raising interest rates will be the wrong decision

During the past two weeks, the Bank's attitude on the outlook for inflation has changed rapidly

Tomorrow morning the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England will almost certainly decide to raise British interest rates. They will almost certainly be wrong.

How do I know that Kenneth Clarke and Eddie George will make this supposedly top-secret decision? Because to do otherwise would be to disappoint the foreign exchange market which, despite Mr Clarke's denials in Washington, continues to haunt his nightmares. In a poll of financial analysts conducted last week by Reuters, 19 out of 20 predicted a half-point rise in interest rates at tommorrow's monthly monetary meeting. For the Government that will presumably be decisive!

Until a few weeks ago, the City believed the Bank could afford to be quite relaxed about the inflation outlook. But that changed abruptly in the past two weeks. The reasons for this sudden change of fashion are worth considering in detail, both because they shed light on the likely decision tomorrow and because they show why this decision will probably be wrong.

In the first three months of this year, the economy seemed to be slowing. This was evidenced by a run of weak figures on retail sales, industrial output, and employment. These are illustrated in the bottom row of charts. Many more such statistics, including housing starts, car sales, and the official leading indicators could have been added, if space had permitted, to reinforce the message that economic growth was flattening out.

Just as important as the weak indicators being published by the Government were the sound theoretical reasons why a slowdown was taking place. Consumers and industrialists were reacting to the huge tax increases imposed last spring in textbook fashion, with a lag of about six months. On top of this, the economy had to contend with a monetary tightening from September and a further tax increase this year. The deflationary impact of these measures was hardly even beginning to be felt.

Against this deflationary background, it was starting to look like the Chancellor had made a serious error of judgment when he raised interest rates in January from 6.25 to 6.75 per cent. The idea that interest rates might soon have to rise even further looked farfetched, especially since reported inflation showed no serious acceleration and wage settlements were flat or even falling, rather than taking off as the pessimists had predicted late last year.

The only small cloud on the monetary horizon was the weakness of sterling. While everyone, from the Chancellor down, had agreed by the end of last year that a weak currency could often be thoroughly healthy, even the most enthusiastic supporters of devaluation (myself included) recognised that a point might be reached when a weak currency became too much of a good thing. During the winter that point seemed to be coming into view. The export-led manufacturing sector was showing signs of overheating and there was some tentative evidence of inflationary pay settlements spreading into the rest of the economy from the busy exporters and industrial firms. But despite the pound's further sharp fall in March and early April, the concern about the currency was, if anything, abating until a few weeks ago.

By mid-April there were at least three reasons for taking a more relaxed view about sterling. First, the extraordinary volatility of the dollar-mark and dollar-yen exchange rates in March and April made it absolutey obvious that the pressure on the pound had nothing to do with economic, or even political, conditions in Britain. It was purely an incidental by-product of the dollar problem — or more precisely the problems of the yen and the mark. Secondly, the unexpected slowdown in manufacturing output and in most indicators of consumer demand from January onwards, implied that a further currency boost to the export sector would no longer be unwelcome. The idea that the manufacturing sector might soon be in danger of overheating seemed increasingly ridiculous, given that manufacturing output showed no growth at all in the five months to February. In fact, despite all the ballyhoo about Britain's unprecedented manufacturing revival, the index of manufacturing in February was still below the level it had reached before the recession almost five years ago.

> The economy will run the danger of a serious slowdown

Finally, the turmoil in the currency markets was itself threatening the strong growth in Europe that all forecasters had expected to sustain the British recovery. With industrial prospects in Europe deteriorating sharply, British exporters could use a low pound to increase their share of these markets, even in the absence of strong growth in Germany and France.

Altogether, the British economy seemed set fare for steady interest rates, a slight slowdown and then a renewed period of export-led growth. But on April 19, perceptions suddenly switched. That day saw the publication of the minutes of the March 8 monetary meeting between the Governor and the Chancellor. Mr George was reported as uttering the following ominous phrases:

"The present disturbance in the foreign exchange markets had had an effect on sterling which, if it persisted, would need to be taken into account. The possibility could not be excluded that the Governor would have to revert to the Chancellor if the situation were to deteriorate".

In speaking these words — and choosing to record them in the minutes despite an explicit agreement that matters relating to currency management could be left out — Mr George seemed to be sending a strong signal to the City. He wanted to raise interest rates to defend the pound.

But even worse was to come. On April 25, the Central Statistical Office published its preliminary estimate of the Gross Domestic Product for the first quarter. Instead of the widely expected slowdown, the CSO said the economy had continued to move ahead at a steady quarterly pace of 0.8 per cent. This announcement seemed to contradict all the weak monthly production and sales figures, as well as the wails of anguish from the construction and motor industries and the high streets. Government statisticians pointed out that industrial production, which was "broadly flat", accounted for only 28 per cent of GDP. Meanwhile, the much larger service part of the economy had actually accelerated to 1 per cent, from an average quarterly growth rate of 0.8 per cent last year.

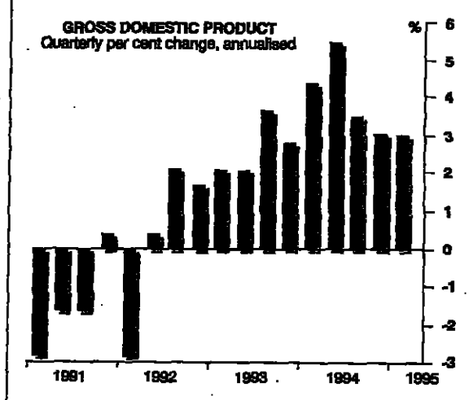
The alleged acceleration in services, seems to contradict most anecdotal evidence. It also seems an implausible pattern of recovery, given the forces acting on the economy, in the shape of rising taxes and interest rates and a weak pound. The preliminary GDP figures give no detailed breakdowns and are notoriously prone to revision.

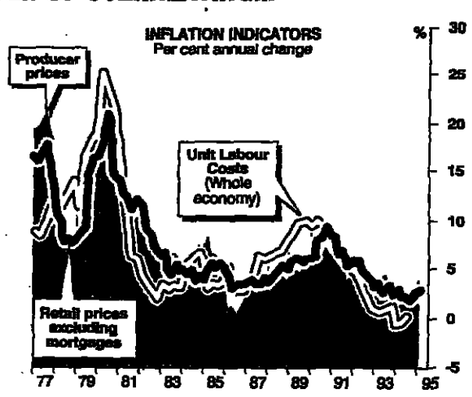
The main question which the Chancellor and the Governor should tomorrow be discussing is whether the acceleration of non-manufacturing growth suggested by the CSO is plausible — and whether more harm could be done by raising interest rates now or by waiting until detailed information is available next month. To any rational observer the answer must surely be obvious. If the economy really does turn out to be growing at a dangerously inflationary pace, interest rates could be raised in June without significantly changing the long-term prospects for inflation.

If, on the other hand, interest rates are raised this week and the apparent acceleration of the service sector turns out to be some kind of temporary aberration or statistical illusion, cutting them back next month turn would be so embarrassing as to be out of the question.

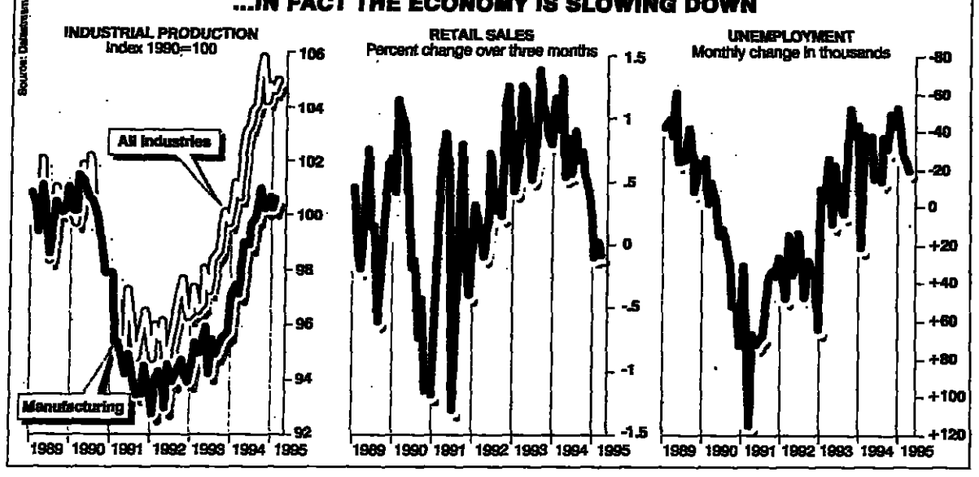
If the Chancellor takes this choice, the City's expectations will be met, but the economy will run the danger of a serious slowdown. If the Chancellor takes the opposite course and waits until next month, the City will be shocked, but the Government would preserve some vital freedom of action. Unfortunately, it is all too easy to predict tomorrow's decision.

BRITAIN SHOWS NO SIGN OF OVERHEATING...





...IN FACT THE ECONOMY IS SLOWING DOWN



Seven months that ended Warburg's independence

Patricia Tehan on the fall of the bank that Sir Siegmund built

Seven short months is all it has taken for the end of independence at the house of Warburg.

Last October, when the bank issued its first shock profits warning, was the first time either SG Warburg's supremacy in the City or its global ambitions had been in doubt.

The autumn profits problems were not unique to Warburg. All firms with significant trading activities had been hit by the turmoil in the world's equity and bond markets last year. If anything, it was surprising that anyone had expected things to be different in Warburg. In November, it reported a first-half loss on its trading activities, and barely scraped in with a profit from its investment banking businesses. Group profits, at £62.5 million, were less than half those in the same period of the previous year.

In spite of its difficulties then, when Warburg announced its plans to merge with Morgan Stanley, in December, it was apparently doing so from a position of strength, in a seller's market.

By the time of yesterday's bombshell — its third profits in seven months — Warburg had lurched from one crisis to another and arrived in a buyer's market in time for Swiss Bank Corporation to snap up the investment banking businesses it wants at a reasonable price.

Warburg did a great job in December of convincing analysts and media commentators of the unique benefits of a merger with Morgan Stanley. It would, said Warburg, enable it to leapfrog the competition and accelerate the ambitions of both banks by at least five years.

A week later, when the talks ended acrimoniously after objections by its 75 per cent owned Mercury Asset Management, Warburg said that it was not open to offers and that this had been a one-off opportunity. Lord Cairns, then chief executive, went so far as to say that the bank did not "see any other combination among people in our field that offers anything like this".

The monthly drip feed of bad news continued in January when the bank pulled out of eurobonds, a market created by its founder, with the loss of 180 jobs.

The scale of the crisis became clear the following month when Warburg lost two of its most senior and respected corporate financiers to Morgan Grenfell, the London-based investment bank owned by Deutsche Bank.

Lord Cairns accepted responsibility and resigned a week after the departures. Sir David Scholey cancelled his retirement, became executive chairman and took over as head of a five-strong management committee, with the aim of revising the Warburg strategy to present a viable policy for the future. He said then that Warburg would continue as an independent company.

Rival businesses have since reported being inundated with CVs from Warburg staff.

A further four senior executives resigned from Warburg to go to Morgan Grenfell only this week. The bank has cut back its derivatives operations and pulled out of US domestic equities.

Warburg's management has looked increasingly unable to manage. In February, the bank appointed John Holmes, former head of sales at Credit Lyonnais Laing, as its head of sales. Two months later, it told staff that he will not be joining after "differences of view emerged regarding the future development of the firm's equity business". Warburg has bought out his contract at a figure said to be "under six figures".

Staff bonuses, due in April, have now been postponed until publication of the results at the end of this month.

Although the collapse of Barings gave Warburg some welcome relief from the media spotlight, it undoubtedly contributed to the company's decision to consider what Swiss Bank Corporation has to offer — an end to uncertainty about its future, a strong balance sheet, and limited overlap of businesses.

Sir David is eating his words. The "adopted son" of Warburg's founder, the late Sir Siegmund Warburg, is now faced with the unenviable task of convincing a disillusioned workforce and a doubtful client base of the merits of the "unique" opportunity of joining forces with SBC, and giving MAM its independence.



Warburg HQ: departures mirror *Rush Hour* sculpture

Fear drives bank staff to the brink

As Barclays staff vote to strike, **Robert Miller** looks at the background to unrest in the banking business

The vote by Barclays staff in favour of strike action is a *cri de coeur* rather than a threat to shut down the bank's 2,000 high street branches.

While many employees in the financial services industry, such as pension sales staff, are viewed with suspicion by wary investors, those who work in bank branches are, by and large, regarded by customers as the friendly face of banking. In local communities many are friends and neighbours. But it is on these very people that the huge burden of staff cuts inflicted by head offices over the past five years has fallen.

Barclays has closed nearly 600 branches since 1990 and shed 18,500 jobs, with another 3,000 to go this year according to Bifu, the banking, insurance and finance union. NatWest has cut 15,000 jobs since 1990, with up to 3,000 more to go by the end of the year. Midland has lost 6,000 posts in the 1990s, with the threat of another 2,000 by the end of this year. But, Bifu points out, Midland, now part of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, went through a painful rationalisation in the 1980s, losing about 10,000 people as rivals were still recruiting. TSB has shed 8,000 jobs since 1990 and has said that it will close another 200 branches within a year at a cost of at least 1,000 jobs.

Commenting on the possibility of a strike at Barclays, Noel Howell, of Bifu, which represents 130,000 staff in the financial services sector, said last night: "We will advise our members not to undermine any action by Unifi, the Barclays' staff union and not to cross picket lines."

Dai Davies, assistant general secretary of the independent NatWest Staff Association, says there is "a fear factor" stalking staff that is felt right across the financial services sector. At present there is no concerted action by all unions involved and therefore individual strike calls are likely to impact on the senior management of banks and life and pension companies less than they might otherwise. Mr Davies says that, after last week's meeting of the Financial Services Staff Federation, there is now a move to bring a more united approach to staff and industry issues.

Mr Davies adds that what hurts bank staff most "is the general feeling of a lack of respect for them by senior executives manifested in the bonus payments to top management this year. Bank staff are also being placed in an increasingly stressful environment as people leaving do not get replaced. Staff levels are being reduced on the basis of new technology which in fact has not yet been put in place".

Increasing staff stress levels will be the subject of a major debate at Bifu's annual conference this month, as will the general move by banks to impose performance-related pay awards on their staff rather than introducing them through negotiation. Mr Howell of Bifu says: "The sum of new money that goes into making up performance related pay awards, called the pot, is actually lower in all the banks than the sum of the old two-tier pay system. Within the new salary increases there are a number of people who get no pay rise at all and a growing number who receive less than the annual rate of inflation."

It appears that the senior management in banks are no better at communicating with their staff than they are with their customers. Analysts of the banking industry say many of the job losses and branch closures were considered inevitable. But that message has not been accepted by staff.



Staff have sent Barclays chiefs Andrew Buxton and Martin Taylor a cri de coeur

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The dividend will be payable as follows, subject to the provision of the appropriate Netherlands Tax Affidavit where necessary.

To Certificate Holders who are subject to United Kingdom Income Tax, less 15 per cent Netherlands Withholding Tax, and United Kingdom Income Tax at 5 per cent on the gross dividend.

To residents of other countries with which The Netherlands have concluded tax agreements, under deduction of 15 per cent Netherlands Withholding Tax.

To residents of all other countries, less 25 per cent Netherlands Withholding Tax.

Certificate Holders resident outside the United Kingdom will receive payment less United Kingdom Income Tax at the rate of 20 per cent on the net amount unless the coupons are accompanied by a United Kingdom Affidavit of non-residence. The aforementioned rates of tax apply only in respect of coupons presented for payment up to and including 10th November 1995. Thereafter Netherlands Withholding Tax will be deducted at the rate of 25 per cent and the United Kingdom Income Tax, where applicable, at the rate of 20 per cent from the net Sterling amount.

For the period of 10th May 1995 to 10th November 1995 the dividend will be paid in Sterling at the rate of exchange ruling on the day of presentation of the coupons. Coupons presented thereafter will be paid in Sterling at the rate of exchange ruling on the 10th November 1995.

To obtain payment, coupon no. 45 must be presented at the office of Hill Samuel Bank Limited, 10 Fleet Place, London EC4M 7RH. ("the Paying Agent"). Coupons must be listed in numerical order on special forms obtainable from the Paying Agent and must be left five clear days for examination.

Copies are available on request to the Paying Agent at the above address of the present Conditions relating to the Participation Certificates which Conditions replace those printed on the back of the existing Participation Certificates.

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India forecast to leave UK economy standing


Heseltine: warned business

By Colin Narbrough
World Trade Correspondent

BRITAIN will trail well behind the world's most competitive economies in the early part of the next century, according to a survey of leading business executives conducted for the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Geneva.

The WEF annual survey on world competitiveness, which is due out in September, expects Britain to be rated in 27th position by the year 2030, behind the giant developing countries of India and China, which both figure in the top ten.

The low ranking for Britain in the survey, which shows America in pole position, followed by Japan, China and Germany, contrasts with government claims about the huge progress that the economy has made in terms of international competitiveness since the Conservatives came to power in 1979.

America easily came top, with well over half of the executives polled for the survey putting it in lead position. The rankings are based on the views of 1,500 business executives and are compiled for the WEF by the Institute for Management Development in Lausanne.

Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, who is due to issue his annual White Paper on competitiveness on May 22, last week told an Institute of Directors conference that "British businesses are winning in the global market".

However, he warned businessmen that the improved competitiveness gave no cause for complacency, because Britain's principal competitors had sought to forge ahead, as Britain sought to catch up. "No matter how much we have changed over the past 15 years, the pace of change is unrelenting, the competition intensifying," he said.

The WEF survey, which, for the first time, canvassed opinions on competitive positions in 2030, confirms the shift to Asia of the world's economic centre of gravity. Singapore, South Korea, India, Taiwan and Malaysia all figure in the top ten. Switzerland, at 10th, is the only European economy, apart from Germany, in the top ten.

Last year the WEF put America, Singapore and Japan as world leaders in competitiveness in 2010. Rankings are based on a broad range of factors, from economic performance to management skills and the quality of the workforce.

The executives responding to the survey form part of a global network of business leaders who attend the annual WEF meetings at Davos, the Swiss alpine resort.

Peabody may merge to create £1bn group

By Robert Miller

TWO leading charitable housing associations yesterday announced plans to join force and create a new entity with combined assets of more than £1 billion.

If the merger goes ahead, the Peabody Trust, which this year celebrates its bi-centenary, and Network Housing Association, would become the Peabody Network providing homes for 25,000 households and would also be the second or third largest housing association in the United Kingdom.

The Peabody, which is at present the seventh largest housing association, is noted for its care in the Community initiatives and the pioneering Rough Sleepers programme.

George Barlow, chief executive of Peabody, said the plan to merge with Network, which operates around London and Hertfordshire, was set against "an era of a serious falling off of state aid".

The Network has built a reputation for providing special needs schemes through about 50 projects as well as managing 27 sheltered housing schemes.

Over the past few years, the Government has cut back the official Housing Association Grant (HAG), insisting that associations raise more money through the private sector such as building societies and merchant banks.

In 1993 the Government-funded Housing Corporation distributed £1.8 billion in grants to about 2,300 associations. This sum fell to £1.54 billion in the last financial which ended on April 1.

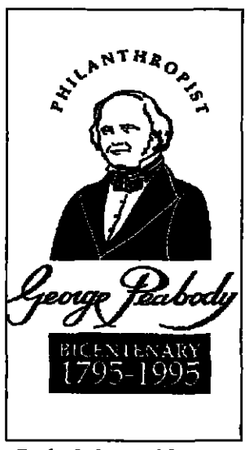
In the fiscal year just started, the grant will be worth about £1.2 billion and the Government plans further cuts in the grant to a point where it contributes 55 per cent of the financing for each new housing association unit, compared with 62 per cent last year, with the remainder coming from the City.

The housing associations are currently the largest providers of social housing needs outside the Government. They believe that at a near 50/50 split of funding between the state and private sector, the associations become a much less attractive investment proposition for the private sector.

Fred Goymour, associate director of NatWest Markets' housing finance division, which has raised more than half of the £6 billion worth of private finance for housing associations, said: "The vast majority of the larger associations, as opposed to the more specialised local ones, are developing housing in areas where the state grants per association unit are already well below the below the 50 per cent level."

He added that this raised the serious concern that the initial rents which had to be charged to tenants would inevitably have to be higher than was generally desirable in order to pay the interest on the money raised from the private sector.

Mr Barlow said: "Against the falling level of state aid we want to extend the traditional housing association role to combat a wide variety of poverty issues and play a major role in urban and economic regeneration at the grass roots level."



Peabody is noted for care in the community schemes


Under starters orders: John and Nick Trewhitt set for next week's market debut

Gus Carter ready for the off in the City

By Jon Ashworth

GUS CARTER, the Sunderland-based chain of bookmakers, is coming to the market via a placing by Wise Speke that values the company at £12.7 million. The shares have been priced at 80p. The flotation will raise £3 million after expenses to fund shop refurbishment and expansion. Dealings will begin next Wednesdsay.

Members of the Trewhitt family who run Gus Carter are selling shares worth £1.88 million for the benefit of various family trusts. John Trewhitt, 41, managing director, and his brother Nick, 38, development director, will continue to hold stakes of 24.5 per cent each in the company. They will each receive £75,000 in annual salary and pension entitlements on service contracts fixed for the first three years.

Gordon Hodgson, chief executive of Cowie Group, was appointed non-executive chairman of Gus Carter last month. The Trewhitts expect to invest £2.5 million over the next two years in refurbishing the company's 72-shop strong betting chain, and buying other betting offices. A further £1.3 million will be spent on new computer systems.

Gus Carter aims to benefit from the continuing deregulation of the betting industry, that has opened the gates for evening and Sunday betting, and allowed product promotions in betting office windows. Bookmakers can now accept football pool coupons under the National Lottery Act 1993.

The flotation has attracted strong local interest. Private clients of Wise Speke, based in Newcastle, will buy 1.5 million shares. The balance is being placed with institutions. Fees payable to Wise Speke and other North East advisers amount to £475,000.

Gus Carter made a pre-tax profit of £1.09 million (£574,000) in the year to December 31 on turnover of £43.6 million (£40.8 million).

Country Casuals goes into red

By Sarah Bagnall

COUNTRY CASUALS, the women's fashion retailer, yesterday revealed the extent of the damage wreaked by new ventures with the announcement of a £1 million loss in the 53 weeks to January 28. The loss represented a steep decline from a pre-tax profit of £2.6 million in the previous 52-week period.

The group was pushed into the red by larger than expected start-up costs and trading losses of £2.7 million in Elvi, the "size 14 and up" chain. Profits were hit by £400,000 of provisions for the closure of some Elvi stores and a loss of £900,000 on selling Koto Stores.

Country Casuals has 57 Elvi stores, having opened 22 stores last year. The number is not expected to rise this year.

Tom Adam, chairman, said that Elvi would continue to be loss-making this year. He said: "It is a critical year for Elvi. We have got to see the point when we will break through into profits. If that disappears too far into the future, we will have to decide if we are doing the right thing and are not throwing good money after bad."

The core Country Casuals business reported record profits of £3.3 million, up from £3 million last time.

The final dividend is held at 2.89p, making an unchanged total for the year of 4.3p.

The shares slipped 1p, to 108p.

Deutsche buys US finance house

By Oliver August

DEUTSCHE BANK has bought ITT Commercial Finance, one of the biggest independent asset-based financing companies in the United States, for $700 million.

The company, to be renamed Deutsche Financial Services Corporation, will operate in 39 cities in America and Canada, with an asset volume of more than $5 billion.

John Rolls, president of Deutsche Bank North America, said the purchase would add stable and attractive returns to the bank's earnings stream.

ITT Commercial Finance's earnings have seen annual increases of between 10 and 15 per cent for the past 15 years. Mr Rolls said he expected the growth in earnings to continue, though not necessarily at such a high rate.

Melvin Brown, the president of ITT Commercial Finance, said his company had made record profits in 1994, and 1995 was looking even better. First-quarter earnings were up 40 per cent on the same period last year.

Mr Rolls also announced that 200 jobs will be lost at Deutsche Credit, Deutsche Bank's own American asset-based financing company, as a result of the acquisition. The two companies will be merged and together will have between 1,750 and 1,800 employees.

Deutsche Bank hopes to gain access to Commercial Finance's 16,000 corporate customers and to offer them other financial products as well.

Siegfried Guterman, a spokesman for Deutsche Bank in Frankfurt, said: "We are very impressed with the good relationship Commercial Finance had with its corporate customers. We are looking forward to combining this with our existing American business."

Deutsche Bank emphasised that the acquisition will also provide the old ITT team with a new network to expand into Europe. The core business will be in stock financing for wholesalers. The deal was approved by regulators in America and Canada after a four-month review period.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

BET to buy French company for £27m

BET, the British support services company, proposes to acquire Delta Protection, an electronic security company based in France, for a total of £27 million. BET has initially acquired a majority stake in Delta held by the management for £15 million, giving 76 per cent of the company's share capital. Remaining Delta shares, which trade on the Lyon stock exchange, will be acquired through a general offer worth 306 francs a share. The cost of the acquisition will be offset by Delta's net cash of £8.75 million.

Delta had a turnover of Fr170 million in 1994 and earned net profits, excluding minorities, of Fr14.1 million. At the end of its financial year, net assets were Fr112 million. BET said that the acquisition of Delta, which is one of the leading French companies involved in security services, secured an important position in the French market, strengthening its existing activities in this field through Britain and The Netherlands.

Gradus flotation plan

GRADUS GROUP, a Cheshire-based manufacturer of flooring accessories, lighting systems and carpets, is to seek a stock market listing in the early summer. The company is expected to be capitalised at about £26 million and is likely to raise about £6 million of new money through a placing by Beeson Gregory, sponsor and broker to the proposed issue. The proceeds from the placing will be used to pay off debt and to fund future expansion. Gradus, which was founded in 1966, made a pre-tax profit of £3.1 million in the year to December 31, against £1.8 million in 1993, on turnover of £22.6 million (£18.7 million).

Aegon bids for Vital

AEGON, the Dutch insurance company, has made an agreed 694 million guilder (£280 million) bid for Vital Forsikring, Norway's second-largest life insurance group. Aegon is offering NKr103 a share. Vital shareholders will also be entitled to the 1994 dividend of NKr5.75. The offer is conditional on a due diligence review of Vital and approval by 90 per cent of Vital shareholders. Vital also reported first-quarter pre-tax profits of NKr332 million (£33 million), up from NKr63 million in the first quarter of 1994. Premium income rose to NKr1.54 billion, from NKr 1.45 billion, and investment income to NKr748 million, from NKr495 million.

Distilling agreement

MACDONALD MARTIN DISTILLERIES has reached an agreement with United Distillers, part of Guinness, to acquire the bottling halls, warehousing and office premises located on a single site at Broxburn, near Edinburgh airport, for a total of £4.25 million. The company's existing operations at Leith, including bottling, blending and administrative functions, will be relocated to Broxburn, enabling the sale of the facilities at Leith. The acquisition is likely to be completed by December 31 and the relocation is scheduled to take place next spring.

Greenway forges ahead

GREENWAY HOLDINGS is seeking further growth opportunities after improved operating efficiencies helped the waste oil recycling group to a solid underlying performance. Pre-tax profits were £1.82 million in the year to March 31, compared with a profit of £2.79 million in the previous 15-month period, which included an exceptional profit of £1.5 million. Turnover climbed to £10.9 million (£10.6 million). There is a final dividend of 1.5p, due to be paid on July 17, giving an improved total of 2.5p for the year, compared with 1.5p, from adjusted earnings of 6.62p (5.71p) a share.

Recovery at CI Group

THE recovery continued at CI Group, as the Wolverhampton engineering products supplier returned to the black with a pre-tax profit of £1.26 million in the year to January 31, compared with a loss of £1.53 million last time. Turnover at continuing operations advanced by 21 per cent to £75.4 million, reflecting an improved level of sales for most of the group's businesses. There is an improved final dividend of 0.3p (0.1p), to be paid on July 3, giving an unchanged total of 0.5p for the year, from earnings of 1.04p a share (1.54p loss). The shares added 3p to 17p.

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Shares extend recent gains

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
492	413	Abbey Nat	474	+ 3	4.7	9.6
2355	2150	Allied Irish	2300	+ 4	4.8	9.5
204	198	Anz New Z	204	+ 4	4.8	9.5
3156	2335½	Bank America	3000	+ 6½		
1397	1215½	Bank Scotland	1251½	+ 2	3.3	9.7
555	557½	Barclays	6134	+ 2	4.9	7.1
438	388	BK of Ireland	388	+ 2	4.3	8.8
418	418	Cater Allen	418		4.3	12.0
2660	2400	Citicorp	2601½	- 12½	7.3	10.0
269	219	Close Bros	251		3.6	11.6
2155	2120	Commercial	2136½	+209½	3.9	
1397	959	Dst Anl Ish Y	1251½		3.9	
1377	1266	Dunbros Bk	1305½	+234½	9.6	
675	612½	Equitbl Secs	675	+ 21½	3.2	
1540	1150	Fst Bank Y	1536½	- 1	8.4	
2550	1985	Genrad Ntz	436	+ 5	8.8	12.6
588	588	Hambros	588		4.6	13.3
1468	1378	HSBC	1417	+ 3	4.6	9.2
1378	1378	HSBC HK1	1378		4.6	9.2
1468	1468	Irish Permt	1468		4.6	12.7
1378	1378	Kleinwort Benf	1378		4.6	9.2
2468	2150	Lloyds	2468	+ 4	12.0	9.5
1468	1378	Nat Westmin	1378	+ 3	4.6	11.7
312	248	Rabobank Ned	312	+ 8	6.2	9.5
2550	2170	Royal Bk Scot	2550	- 1	4.8	9.2
1468	1236	Schroders NVT	1468	- 28	1.6	15.2
51	51	Singer & Friedl	89½	+ 3	4.9	
312	248	Standd Chartrd	312	+ 8	6.2	9.5
2550	2170	Tsb	2550	+ 1	4.8	9.2
2468	2150	Ulster	2468	+ 4	12.0	9.5
2100	1650	Wells Fargo†	2100	+ 100	2.2	
2550	2170	Westpac	2550	+ 8	6.2	
285	200	Wintrust	285	+ 2	6.5	13.7

BREWERIES

172	143	Arcot Hldgs	168			
569	487	Bass	568	+ 11	4.6	14.0
221	208	Boddington	208	+ 4	4.8	13.8
177	152	Burmstead Bre	152	- 1	4.2	12.8
172	137	Eldridge P 'A'	153		3.4	18.2
1156	1156	Fuller Smith	1156	+ 1	4.7	15.2
355	355	Fuller S 'A'	355		4.7	14.8
468	468	Greenalls Gp	468	+ 6	5.5	15.2
514	514	Greene King	514	+ 1	3.3	14.0
247	247	Hardy Hanan	247		4.8	12.1
150	150	Hardysons	150		3.8	10.6
368	368	Holt Jr	368		3.8	
488	488	Marstons	488	- 1	4.8	12.1
288	288	Morlon Thop	288	- 1	2.5	14.9
497	497	Morland	497		2.5	13.7
6½	6½	Paramount	6½			
307	307	Regent Inns	366		2.9	18.9
1887½	1287½	SA Breweries	1831½	+ 69½	7.5	20.0
547	547	Scot & Newc	547	+ 8	4.9	15.7
211	211	Scot Grp	211		4.9	13.4
449	449	Websterscot JDY	2594½	+ 2½	8.2	13.4
573	573	Whitbread	573	+ 10	4.5	14.1
493	493	Wolverhmpn D	535	+ 3	3.3	13.5
216	216	Yates Bros	216	+ 1	2.2	17.2
455	450	Young 'A'	455		4.1	19.2

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

150	125	Abbey	130		5.0	9.5
163	163	Aiten	155		4.4	14.8
78	56	Amec	78	+ 1	5.8	*
133	133	Andrews Sykes	178	+ 6		
412	412	Ashtead	444	+ 6	1.6	19.0
192	192	Avonsdort	192	+ 1	6.7	*
91	91	Bailey (Geo) Conv	91		4.2	7.5
58	58	Barron	58			
158	158	Bassis (Dec)	158		4.2	13.1
122	122	Beazer Homes	132	+ 1	4.9	10.5
180	180	Bellway	224		3.9	13.3
27	27	Bellwinch	29		2.8	18.1
315	315	Berkeley Gp	355		2.5	11.5
168	168	Bett Bros	178	+ 3	4.5	12.1
185	185	Bovis (Henry)†	195		4.8	*
133	133	Brandon Hire	118		2.0	19.7
158	158	Br Bldg & Eqpt	128		4.5	16.5
105	105	Brown	121		3.2	11.5
98	98	CALA	98		3.1	12.7
39	39	Cameron & Ann	39			
48	48	Clarke Tt	52		9.6	12.9
70	70	Costain	125			
80	80	Countryside	80		5.7	11.6
91	91	Crest Nicholson	91		5.8	9.2
18	18	Cumbrian	18		5.6	
25	25	Edmond Hldgs	25		0.8	*
205	205	Eve Group	210		6.5	8.8
39	39	Fairfrost	39		5.2	
29	29	Gabbs & Dandyf	29		5.2	
826	826	Glenson (MJH)	826		2.2	15.6
71	71	Green (Everett)	71		3.8	19.0
210	210	Hawtocor Euro	210		4.8	14.1
178	138	Hawtoc-Stuart†	178	+ 1	2.4	17.0
73	73	Higgs & Hill†	73		4.6	12.2
96	96	Holland Hldgs	96		6.2	12.2
114	94	Jarvis	114			
117	98	Kellert	117		3.7	10.8
233	185	Laing (J)	282	+ 1	5.6	*
124	115	Laing (John) Dv Pf	124		6.5	
61	36	Lk Chesshire	61		5.7	12.4
210	185	Lovell (Y.J)	39		3.2	10.9
187	136	Mcalpine (Alf)	158		3.2	10.2
92	51	McCarthy & S	158		5.8	*
51	51	Morgan Sndall	51			20.8
106	74	Mowlem (Jf)†	92	+ 1	3.3	38.5
206	168	Pentamaron	205	+ 1	5.8	13.1
2400	1700	Pochins	1712½		2.3	12.0
136	105	Ponding	132		4.0	17.1
53	53	Rmc Ind	53	- 1	10.8	6.6
48	46	Sidcare Relns	48			14.8
118	89	Smith & Nephew	114	+ 1	3.0	13.3
37	37	Smith Bwd	37		2.0	15.2
362	362	Speedl Hldgs	365		2.0	
258	258	Shorcrof	258		5.1	
258	258	Symonds	258	+ 1	5.1	20.5
176	155	Tay Homes†	176		2.9	22.9
134	114	Taylor Woodrow†	121		2.9	22.9
388	433	Tilbury Douglas	480		9.4	17.9
92	52	Tomlin Wm	92		3.1	18.2
22	16	Try Group†	22		6.8	20.3
188	103	Vibroplant	188		5.5	18.8
116	97	Wernerscs	109		5.8	11.8
68	49	Ward Hldgs	49	- 1	3.8	6.9
146	123	Westbury	144		4.7	13.1
3½	2½	Wigfalls	3½			
169	124	Wilson (C)	135		3.6	11.6
368	306	Wilson Bowdrf	338	+ 3	3.7	12.5
138	113	Wimpey Gt	130	- 5	5.3	16.1

BUILDING MATERIALS

14	7½	Abingdon	9			15.2
343	331	Alumasc	334	+ 1	2.5	18.7
52	47	Ampleforth Gp	50		3.1	25.7
324	257½	BPB Ind	312	+ 3	3.9	13.9
133	122	Baggeridge Brk	131		3.8	13.5
39	27	Barlocot	39		6.8	17.5
31	30	Blackwood	31		1.7	
315	255	Blue Circle†	286	+ 1	5.1	17.8
98	72	Brandon PLC†	72		7.5	*
136	119	Br Dredging†	121		5.8	14.6
387	338	CRH†	363	+ 2	2.8	14.4
98	98	Caledonian Fby	98		3.8	18.1
210	196	Capcf	197		7.0	14.3
273	220	Carodient	244	- 4	4.9	12.5
132	114	Cawdon Brt	119½	- 3½	7.6	
136	31	Chellton Gp	31		12.1	11.5
20	18½	Dyson (J.&J)	18½		4.1	18.0
72	68	Dyson A	68		6.9	9.5
15½	11½	Eclipse Blocks	15½			
318	274	Epwort	318	+ 5	9.5	*
344	312	Ecrt	324	+ 4	3.6	*
168	160	Ecstern Grpt	173	+ 4	3.8	14.5
344	312	Hanscad Utt	324		3.8	14.5
362	262	Hepworth	307	+ 1	6.0	14.3
80	80	Hewdson	80		2.3	13.9
73	73	Hoard Hldg	73		2.8	11.7
262	238	Ibstock Hlds	245	- 1	2.3	*
65	65	Lilleshall	65		7.1	10.2
1396	1156	Lorkey†	1256	+ 3	4.1	11.7
371	289	Marshalls	334		4.2	11.9
169	169	Mowlem Ind	336		4.8	13.1
178	169	Newman Tonks†	169	+ 2½	5.8	15.8
88	76	Norcros	88		5.8	16.8
12	12	Phoenix Timber	12			
142	142	Pilkington	191	+ 1½	2.8	34.9
164	122	Polypipe	164		1.8	17.3
1082	982	RMC Gpt	1016	+ 2	2.8	14.8
8	8	Ramus	8			
476	476	Redland†	419		5.0	13.3
189½	51½	Rmc†	103	- 1	5.2	15.4
123	104	Rugby Group†	118		3.8	14.6
86	86	Russell (Arth)	97		3.2	*
222	222	SKI	239	+ 4	3.4	*
11	11	SWP	17½		1.4	*
179	179	Stone & Fchert	173		3.6	*
96	96	Spring Ram	49½		1.6	39.4
99	99	Tarmac†	121	+ 3	5.7	15.6
156	156	Tilon	156	- 1	3.8	12.1
274	274	Tomkins Peterst	274	- 1	4.1	*
30	24	Tredit	30		2.1	29.0
34	34	Uargroup	41			
48	33	Waterhouse	36			
114	83	Wickes	114	+ 2	2.0	5.5
409½	324	Whiteley	349	- 1	2.2	12.3

DISTRIBUTORS

105	91	Abl Lab	103		4.8	11.8
595	595	Adam & Harvey	595		3.6	8.6
21	18	Alexanders	20		6.2	9.8
112	89	Applegarth	107		6.8	
		9¼ Arc Gr Grp			1.7	26.8
562	518	BBS Group	562		3.8	19.8
28	28½	Beauty Flower	28½		5.3	12.0
345	345	Bisgood 'A'	345		4.4	
71	71	Bisgood Nv	71		4.4	
270	216	Bolland Ind	270		5.9	16.3
91	71	Bolby Gp	91		3.3	17.2
40	40½	Bradley Sr	40½		6.8	13.5
743	743	Charlot's	743	+ 11	3.8	13.5
217	217	Chemoxy V	217	+ 3	4.6	14.8
249½	226	Hanson	249½	+ 2	6.4	13.1
162½	135	Harrison Cotlett	162½		7.4	18.4
203	200½	Hatch Mann	203		3.8	*
584½	415½	Jardine Matt	489½	+ 3½	3.2	*
37	37	Jourdan (I)	37		3.2	*
186	134	Lonrho	186		3.8	24.5
134	113	McLeod Russel	134	+ 1	5.8	14.6
38	38	Peter Dawbrn	38			
512	447	Powell Duffryn	512	+ 9	6.1	14.4
135	135	Ropner†	135	+ 1	7.8	11.7
438	438	Rotherm	438		3.9	25.3
15½	10	Sabre	11½			3.7
150	120	Sime Darbyt	150		2.3	18.9
164	164	Scrotby	164		5.6	16.5
170	148	Scrutiny	170		7.0	13.4
253	253	T Group†	234		4.8	*
214	214	Tomkins	243	+ 4½	4.0	15.6
78	50½	Tolhiger H	78		6.0	*
266	266	Unidare	266		6.9	*
350	321	Wescott	350	+ 2	2.1	*
182	162	Wellwood	165		2.5	18.2
11½	6	Wisney	9½		2.5	15.1
350	312	Williams Hldgs†	337	+ 6	5.0	16.1

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

155	149	Advanct	151	+ 1	6.9	13.0
333	269	Aminpharm†	317	+ 2	1.7	25.2
1697	1691	Bridon Hill	1691	+ 2	5.0	15.3
1697	1691	Bridon	1691	+ 2	5.0	15.3
279½	216	Bunzl Ind	279½	+ 2	5.3	14.2
91	71	Bibby Gp	91		3.3	16.3
40½	40½	Bradley Sr	40½		6.8	13.5
743	743	Charlot's	743	+ 11	3.8	13.5
217	217	Chemoxy V	217	+ 3	4.6	14.8
249½	226	Hanson	249½	+ 2	6.4	13.1
162½	135	Harrison Cotlett	162½		7.4	18.4
203	200½	Hatch Mann	203		3.8	*
584½	415½	Jardine Matt	489½	+ 3½	3.2	*
37	37	Jourdan (I)	37		3.2	*
186	134	Lonrho	186		3.8	24.5
134	113	McLeod Russel	134	+ 1	5.8	14.6
38	38	Peter Dawbrn	38			
512	447	Powell Duffryn	512	+ 9	6.1	14.4
135	135	Ropner†	135	+ 1	7.8	11.7
438	438	Rotherm	438		3.9	25.3
15½	10	Sabre	11½			3.7
150	120	Sime Darbyt	150		2.3	18.9
164	164	Scrotby	164		5.6	16.5
170	148	Scrutiny	170		7.0	13.4
253	253	T Group†	234		4.8	*
214	214	Tomkins	243	+ 4½	4.0	15.6
78	50½	Tolhiger H	78		6.0	*
266	266	Unidare	266		6.9	*
350	321	Wescott	350	+ 2	2.1	*
182	162	Wellwood	165		2.5	18.2
11½	6	Wisney	9½		2.5	15.1
350	312	Williams Hldgs†	337	+ 6	5.0	16.1

ELECTRICITY

650	554	East Midlands	643	- 11	5.4	27.0
585	535	Eastern Elec	582	- 15	5.4	15.6
786	686	London Elec	776	- 6	5.8	13.1
621	621	Manweb	576	- 6	5.0	8.1
857	857	Midlands Elec	852	- 18	4.9	8.8
496	421	Midland Power	496		5.0	12.4
1138	715	Northern Elec	816	- 19	5.1	8.4
371	313	Nthn Ireland	371	- 2	4.3	7.9
611	611	Norweb	611	- 2	4.2	7.9
457½	457½	Powergen	457½	+ 1	5.6	11.4
179½	179½	PowerGen (PP)	179½	+ 1	5.6	11.4
1356	1356	Hydro-Elect	1356	+ 2	4.7	10.7
350	350	Scottish Power	350	+ 1	4.7	10.7
484	384	Seeboard	384	- 1	4.2	16.2
812	693	Sth Wales	693	- 1	4.2	16.2
888	693	Sth Western	888	- 1	4.2	16.2
548	548	Southern Elec	548	- 14	4.7	8.4
599	599	Yorkshire Elec	599	- 16	5.3	11.2

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

317	292	Acal	303		2.9	16.4
97½	77½	Accrn Comp	97			
636	535	Aimtronic	635	+ 1	1.6	16.3
216	180	Alba	216		2.3	16.9
289	127½	Amstrad	285½	- 4½	1.5	*
39	39	Astec	39		1.4	*
77	77	Autocy	77		1.7	*
174	119	Aztec	172		2.2	13.9
354	267	BICC	354	+ 4	4.3	16.5
250	225	Bames Hunter	477		5.5	12.2
478	430	Bibb	477		3.8	16.1
388	284	Brentnowpt	388		2.9	18.1
172½	172½	Bytex (Ab) 'A'	195		3.8	16.1
211	149	CML Micro	149	- 2	5.9	9.5
38	28	Channel Hldgs	32	+ 2	4.9	8.1
23	19	Chloride	19½		1.9	55.3
75	61	Clayhithe	75		5.1	*
195	195	Compugrp	195		5.8	12.7
178	98½	Dsg Elect	169½	- 2½	4.7	7.7
478	451	Dilkinley	478		2.2	19.8
440	330	Domin Sr Sys	335	- 17	8.8	*
500	421	Dotty	500	+ 4	4.0	17.6
585	585	Dowlais	585		4.0	22.9
72	65	Dowding Mitch	68		6.8	24.1
1503	1465	Druck	1503		6.9	24.1
3300½	2750	Electron 'B'	3225	+ 12½	3.8	
31½	28	Emess	29½		0.4	
4275	3500½	Escrow 'B'	4250½	+ 69½	3.8	27.4
75	64	Eurotherm	75		3.5	15.0
441	370	Exitech	440		1.5	22.7
436	375	Fairey Group†	436	+ 4	2.8	
375	365	Filtronic Com	375	+ 5	0.4	53.4
170	116	Firmstd Gp	170		2.4	10.2
93	93	Forward Tech†	93		0.4	15.4
310	269	GEC	308	+ 5½	4.4	15.2
123	103	Gestetner†	123		3.9	*
147	132	Gooding†	147		5.6	10.0
121	119	Ind Control†	121	+ 1	6.0	*
17	15	Inntek	15½		4.1	13.9
359	254	Kenwood App	359	- 1	6.0	*
26	26	Kode	26		7.0	20.3
50	50	LPA Ind	50		3.8	*
320	295	MTL Instr†	320	+ 2	2.8	18.2
282	254	Marwin-Sc	282		2.8	19.8
36½	30½	Micrwriter	34½	+ 1	1.5	11.7
324	234	Mitsi	324			
91	91	Pace Systecnol	91		5.7	15.4
330	290	Philips Lmp rnt	2391½	- 29½	2.1	9.5
349	290	Pilco	349		2.9	28.6
327	270	Pleo 'N' Vig	273		2.1	17.4
198	118	Plessey	198		3.7	12.0
227	203	Polestar	227		2.8	19.6
323	243	Racal Elect	258		1.4	19.6
252	217	Racal Instr	252		2.3	20.3
38	38	Redstone	38		2.6	*
301	301	Retford	301		2.8	18.8
226	202	Rotaform	226		2.6	*
20½	19½	Scantronic	19½			
86	86	Silverstone	86		3.2	*
62	53	Spectrum Sec	62		3.2	*
67	46	Sthn Elec	6			
8	8	TDK Circuits	8			
3100	2468½	TDK	2915½	- 3½	1.3	*
376	174½	Telelink Tech	218			
90	57	Telemetrix†	77	- 1	1.9	16.8
183	183	TR	183		3.1	16.5
446	342	Telspec†	446		3.8	31.0
251	228	Thorpe Fitz	251		2.3	20.6
195	195	TI 5	195		3.8	24.9
252	227	Total Systems	252		2.8	28.1
391	350	Tunstall	391	+ 2	2.0	16.5
94	94	Unitech	94		2.3	21.5
39½	34	Vinity	39	+ 2	6.1	15.8
385	368	Vitec	377			
70	38	Wadsworth	41	- 1		
127	122	Wilcom	122		2.4	

ENGINEERING

195	167	ASK	195	+ 1	2.6	
79	47½	APVI	79	+ 1½	4.9	
216	178	ASWT	206		3.6	26.8
35	27	Aero Hamble	35		1.7	2.8
56	42	Aero	56			
133	133	Ash & Lacpt	133		5.4	12.6
538	538	Atlas Equipt	538		5.1	22.5
118	118	Avocet Hunt	118		4.6	*
22½	22½	Babcock	22			
135	135	Bamford (Charles)†	135		6.2	17.3
77	77	Bentley	77		2.9	18.3
23½	23½	Bestobell V	23½		0.9	7.8
110	110	Bifam (J)	110		5.8	
388	388	Bodycote	388		2.2	
15½	13½	Bonas	15½			
118	118	Br Aerospace 'A'	118		3.7	13.5
144	144	Br Steel	144		3.7	13.5
554	418½	Br Vacuogrss Ind	554		7.1	10.7
173	144	Bronzo Tool	170½	+ 3	4.2	16.2
93	79	Bunzl	93		3.3	16.9
39½	39½	Burndid	39½			
71	71	Burnsbrgh Int	71			
17	14	C Group	17		4.7	10.7
236	236	Carrlip Eng	236		3.8	19.0
23	23	Castings	23	+ 2	2.3	19.0
150	150	Chamblin Hill	150		3.8	15.0
335	294	Chantrig	335		3.8	*
143	143	Clyde Blowen	143		3.8	*
302	302	Clotherst	302	+ 12	3.1	*
505	505	Comn (A)	505		8.8	*
187	187	Concentric	187		4.4	14.7
241	210	Cook (Wm)	224	+ 2	3.9	*
312	180	Cook Brown	224		5.9	14.8
88	88	Dobson Park	88		4.8	*
330	330	Dse	330		4.8	15.9
91	91	Dwek (B)	91		2.7	14.1
90	90	Engineer†	90		4.6	10.3
164	135	Fki	164	+ 3	3.2	19.0
142	142	Fraser	142		3.8	16.7
15	15	Fugeon	15		3.8	*
77	77	Gsp Int	77		3.8	*
37	37	Garton Eng	37		3.8	*
38	38	Glynwed†	38	+ 1	4.8	16.8
12	12	Gulyanna	12		3.8	14.5
68	68	Hallen Mecln	68		3.8	*
118	118	Halma	118		1.5	22.9
57	48	Hampson Ind	48	- 1	8.0	8.0
19	19	Hay (Norman)	19			
110	110	Hall & Smith	121		5.2	15.7
69	69	Henderscns	69		2.8	*
20	20	Hersetect	31½		3.1	*
77	77	Howden	77		4.1	12.7
169	169	Hunting†	169	+ 1	7.4	18.7
42	42	IMI	42	+ 1	4.2	18.7
40½	40½	Johnson & Fit	40½			
542	542	Johnson Matth	542	+ 3	2.8	20.2
28	28	James Sharman	28			
212	212	Kalvey Ind	212		5.2	14.6
388	388	Lancst	388		3.2	15.9

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

398	333	AAF Ind	355		3.2	15.2
188	158	Aldour Steven	188		3.2	15.2
476	476	Alvis	476	+ 5	4.3	17.1
214	181	Anon Rubber	214	+ 3	2.8	
69½	49½	BSG†	69½	+ 1	3.8	
329	285	Bamford	329	+ 2	5.1	11.7
24	17	Bamford 'A'	24		3.7	14.8
13½	10	Cascade	13½		4.6	
97	97	Comtec	97		2.8	22.9
31	31	Comtec 'A'	31		2.8	24.2
249	186	Cosalt	249		6.9	24.1
113	79	Crossfield	113		3.5	13.6
90	90	Crowcon Det	90		3.8	13.6
158	137	Delcontrol	158		3.7	13.7
10	9½	Dencora†	9½	+ ½	4.6	
441	370	Eurotherm	440		1.5	22.7
436	375	Fairey Group†	436	+ 4	2.8	
375	365	Filtronic Com	375	+ 5	0.4	53.4
170	116	Firmstd Gp	170		2.4	10.2
93	93	Forward Tech†	93		0.4	15.4
310	269	GEC	308	+ 5½	4.4	15.2
123	103	Gestetner†	123		3.9	*
147	132	Gooding†	147		5.6	10.0
121	119	Ind Control†	121	+ 1	6.0	*
17	15	Inntek	15½		4.1	13.9
359	254	Kenwood App	359	- 1	6.0	*
26	26	Kode	26		7.0	20.3
50	50	LPA Ind	50		3.8	*
320	295	MTL Instr†	320	+ 2	2.8	18.2
282	254	Marwin-Sc	282		2.8	19.8
36½	30½	Micrwriter	34½	+ 1	1.5	11.7
324	234	Mitsi	324			
91	91	Pace Systecnol	91		5.7	15.4
330	290	Philips Lmp rnt	2391½	- 29½	2.1	9.5
349	290	Pilco	349		2.9	28.6
327	270	Pleo 'N' Vig	273		2.1	17.4
198	118	Plessey	198		3.7	12.0
227	203	Polestar	227		2.8	19.6
323	243	Racal Elect	258		1.4	19.6
252	217	Racal Instr	252		2.3	20.3
38	38	Redstone	38		2.6	*
301	301	Retford	301		2.8	18.8
226	202	Rotaform	226		2.6	*
20½	19½	Scantronic	19½			
86	86	Silverstone	86		3.2	*

ACCOUNTANCY

SAS targets fraudsters

BY RICHARD FLECK

Finding and proving fraud is difficult. So it is not surprising people look to auditors for assurance that all is as it should be. Corporate collapses and scandals in the 1980s brought to the fore expectations that auditors should find any instance of fraud in the entity on whose financial statements they report, regardless of its financial impact or the extent to which those perpetrating it sought to conceal it.

In this difficult area, the Auditing Practices Board has published two new Statements of Auditing Standards *Fraud and Error* (SAS 110) and *Consideration of Law and Regulations* (SAS 120). Auditors are required to comply with these standards for audits of financial periods ending on or after June 30, 1995.

Neither SAS promises that auditors will find all cases of fraud or all breaches of law and regulations. The job Parliament has given auditors is primarily to report on companies' financial statements — to state whether these give a true and fair view. Only in the regulated financial sector, and in the areas of public service provisions, are auditors commissioned specifically to report on the way an entity is run.

The APB consulted extensively in the course of preparing the two SASs to determine the nature of expectations, the way in which they can be met and the way in which auditors' performance can be improved. Some of the main criticisms levelled at auditors in the past, and an indication of the way the SASs will meet them are:

☐ *Auditors have not focused sufficiently clearly on identifying possible risk factors*

Both SASs specifically require auditors to assess risk of fraud, or non-compliance with law and regulations, the financial effect of which is material to the financial statements, and to plan sufficient work to draw conclusions about whether fraud or non-compliance has occurred. This makes overt an implicit element of auditing and removes any possible basis for an auditor to believe attempting to find fraud is not his job.

☐ *Suspicious circumstances were not properly investigated*

Both SASs, as well as requiring auditors to plan work aimed at detecting material fraud or non-compliance, require that any possible fraud or non-compliance be investigated, regardless of its size.

☐ *Auditors do not cast their net wide enough*

Both the SASs recognise the difficulties. Fraud usually involves steps to conceal it, and so is always harder to find than error — if it involves collusion of directors and others, auditors can face almost insuperable difficulties. Nevertheless, auditors must take all reasonable steps open to them to detect material fraud and breaches of laws and regulations. Consideration of laws and regulations present an additional problem for auditors. Identifying breaches of the many laws and regulations that may apply to a business can be difficult for lawyers, and auditors are not lawyers. To find a realistic approach for auditors, SAS 120 requires them to identify laws and regulations central to the entity's activities, to carry out specified procedures and to be alert for possible breaches during conduct of all work on the audit. Auditors may not be lawyers, but they will need to know enough about the entity's business and related legal and regulatory requirements to spot problems.



Richard Fleck says the balance of SAS 110 and 120 is right

☐ *Auditors were too quick to accept directors' explanations*

As auditors build up experience of dealing with a particular board of directors, they will form a view on the board's reliability and on the quality of its judgment. There is no reason to suggest this should not happen. However, auditors must approach their work with an attitude of "professional scepticism" and not be lulled into a position of accepting misleading explanations. The main safeguard against this happening is that auditors are required to obtain clear evidence of the position. The SASs require this and a reassessment, where suspicions are raised, of all aspects of the audit — particularly of the truthfulness of information obtained from management.

☐ *When auditors find something, they tell no one*

Both SASs include clear requirements for reporting fraud and breaches of law and regulations to those responsible for management (unless the auditors believe them to be involved) and to shareholders. Where judged necessary, in the public interest, they require auditors to report a matter to an appropriate authority to take action, if the company itself does not do so. Dealing with fraud, the APB has suggested several steps in addition to the issue of SAS 110 in *The Audit Agenda*, its second paper on the future development of auditing. In *The Audit Agenda*, the APB's vice-chairman suggests that audit is about upholding confidence in the integrity of financial reporting and business conduct of entities, but not about stifling their objectives. In SAS 110 and 120, I think we have the balance right.

Richard Fleck is a partner in Herbert Smith and chairman of the APB task force on SAS 110 and 120.

The facts behind a change of auditors

ONE of the problems that the accountancy profession has always had with the concept of predatory pricing, or low-balling as it is more popularly known, is trying to get at evidence. And one of the reasons for this is that nobody talks about what actually happens in the process of a company changing, or seeking to change, its auditors.

But now new research by authors who have interviewed and quoted the finance directors involved provides a vivid picture of what happens. Their views of auditors and their reasons for change provide startling illumination of the motives, chance events, accidents and turns of fate that attend what should be the most mundane of occurrences — a change of auditor.

The Winner's Curse and the Audit Tender Process was produced by Vivien Beattie, of the University of Stirling, and Stella Fearnley, of the University of Portsmouth. Unveiled at the recent British Accounting Association annual conference at Bristol Business School, it involved interviews with the finance directors of 12 listed companies that had changed auditors or been through a tendering process. The conclusions are at odds with the popular view.



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"The evidence suggests," say Beattie and Fearnley, "that, contrary to popular belief, fee levels do not dominate the decision to change auditors, rather changes within the client company, audit staffing and auditor's professionalism and competency issues dominate." On the other hand, there was great suspicion of auditors offering a cheap audit off the back of which other services would be offered. In fact, one audit firm lost the audit simply because they started doing just that. So the reasons behind the changes are down not so much to management or business reasons, but instead to simple human successes and failures.

One of the most heart-rending tales is of a company with a third-tier audit firm. The usual partner was ill and out of action for some time and the firm did what it thought was best. The managing partner took over the audit assignment and lost them the audit. As the finance director said, "We found when we were sitting around at meetings, we'd all be quite young, our solicitors were all quite young and the merchant bankers were quite young and you had these two old men from the auditors and we thought, 'This is getting silly'."

There is a graphic example of the sort of mess this can get both firm and client into. As the finance director put it, the auditors had "of their own saying, cut their fee rate by 20 per cent to get the job and they were expecting to be able to cover that from other types of fees throughout ... if we had a requirement for an insurance certificate signing ... we would get the signature back with a bill for £500".

The other audit loss related to fees was similar. The audit was cheap, but the client kept getting hit by extras. In the words of the finance director: "We had a number of specialist points which we wish to raise ... and we would be very quickly involved in a fairly hefty fee from the specialist department ... the contracts which are now drawn up by the large audit practices are so tightly drawn that anything which falls outside it would fall outside the terms of the contract and one would be in an acrimonious position from day one when talking about fees".

The other area to prove contentious was that of internal controls. Their reaction to the Cadbury Code, which requires them to report on internal controls, though not on their effectiveness, exemplifies this. Internal controls are the directors' responsibilities, so it is easy to cut the cost of the overall audit by not bothering too much about internal controls. On the other hand, people rather expect external auditors to take an interest in internal audit.

Hence one company which could not get its message across to a Big Six firm that, in the words of the finance director, "did not believe that they ought to do an audit of internal controls ... they failed to understand that it wasn't necessarily Cadbury or the institute that was driving us".

In the end, the internal controls question comes back to fee pressure. Audit methodology now focuses on high-risk areas, say the authors, and "although this may be a more efficient and cost-effective way of reaching an opinion, reviews of internal controls have been much reduced".

The audit firms should watch out. And, on the basis of the value of the interviews in this research, they should also listen to what finance directors really think about them and their work.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Tweedie keeps rolling along

KPMG partners held a dinner recently to honour their most talked-about alumnus, Sir David Tweedie, of the Accounting Standards Board. Tweedie gave them a hard time at their recent debate on accounting standards when he asked "what is the difference between an auditor and an airport luggage trolley?" The answer being that it was the trolley that had a mind of its own. But KPMG partners have retained their sense of humour. They presented him with a silver model of a luggage trolley.

Ruled out?

MEANWHILE, KPMG is doing its bit for simplifying the rules. In the latest *Financial Reporting Update*, it provides summaries of accounting standards "boiled down to a sentence or two". But pedantic accountants have noted that KPMG's potted versions miss out FRS 2, FRS 6 and FRS 7. Presumably, they were still considered too hard.

Tender moment

FURTHER revelations from the murky world of audit tendering. In a recent lecture entitled "Is accounting becoming too interesting?" Professor Geoff Whittington, the Cambridge guru, revealed what happened when his college put its audit out to tender. "One firm went so far as to say that its catering specialists could improve the running of the college kitchens," he said. "I was tempted to ask if they also provided painting and decorating or window cleaning services."

In print

BRIAN HARRIS, QC, who wrote recently in these pages, has sprung further into print. His *Law and Practice of Disciplinary and Regulatory Proceedings* is published by Barry Rose: 01243 783637.

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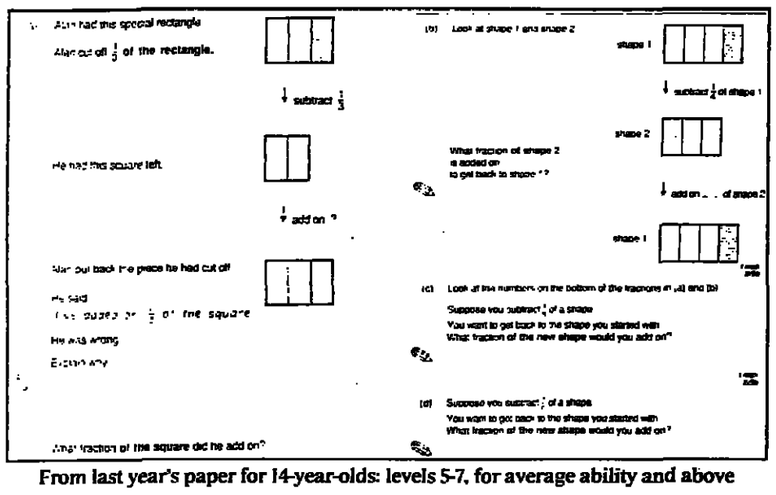
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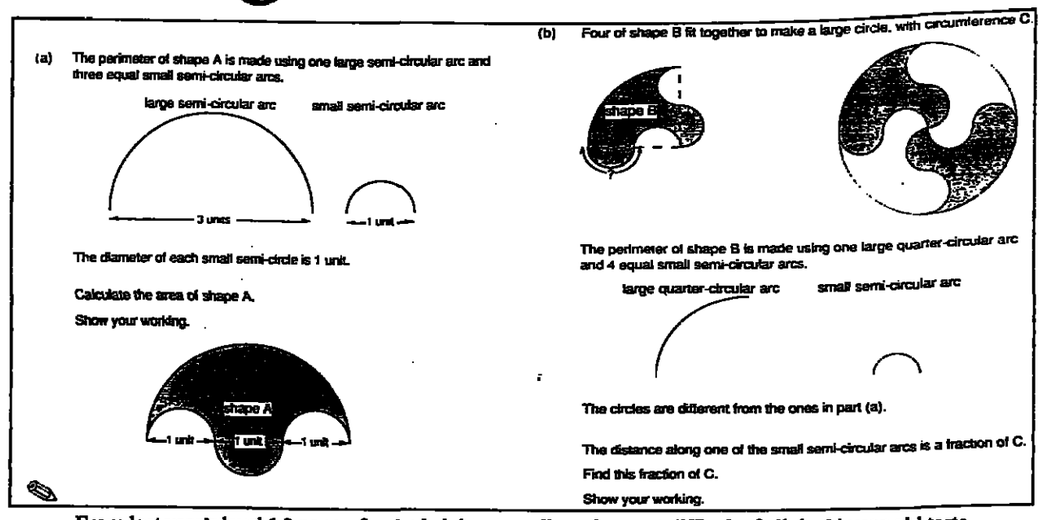
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500.0	434.60	464.10	+ 2.0	2.73
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Smlr Cos Inc	43.29	46.43	+ 0.34	2.39
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Asst Inc	143.50	152.70	+ 1.0	2.85
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(Accum Units)	161.60	171.70	+ 3.30	1.13
Japan & Gen Inc	169.40	180.30	+ 1.0	....
(Accum Units)	179.30	190.30	+ 0.90	....
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Eastern	258.50	271.50	+ 3.60	0.50
Equity Income	82.85	88.25†	- 7.52	4.80
European Growth	368.30	391.60†	+ 1.50	0.26
Europe	215.70	229.70	+ 1.50	0.26
German Growth	74.19	79.71	+ 0.01	0.50
Global Bond	62.64	65.51	+ 0.15	8.30
Global Growth	122.70	131.70	+ 0.60	....
Japan Growth	185.30	197.40	+ 0.80	....
Japan Smlr Cos	143.60	159.90	+ 0.40	....
Pacific Basin	75.15	80.04	+ 1.50	....
Portfolio	127.60	136.50	+ 0.50	1.80
Recovery	57.16	61.37	+ 0.30	3.06
Smaller Cos	114.30	118.80	+ 0.50	1.19
UK Special Sits	482.50	488

TODAY: Mathematics for 14-year-olds — how to prepare, what to expect in the tests, and how to avoid mistakes

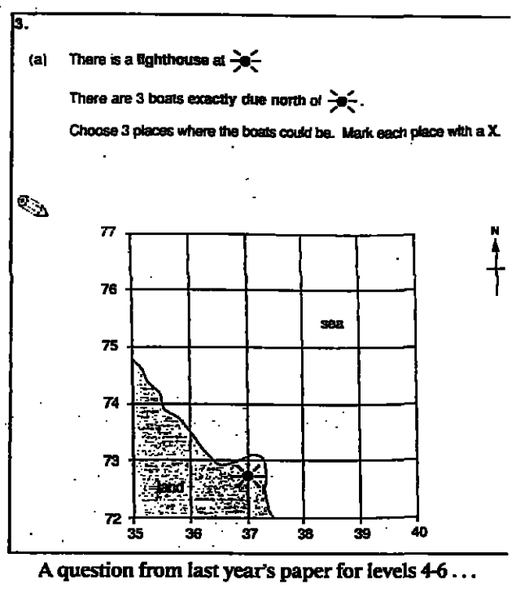
Number-crunching made easier



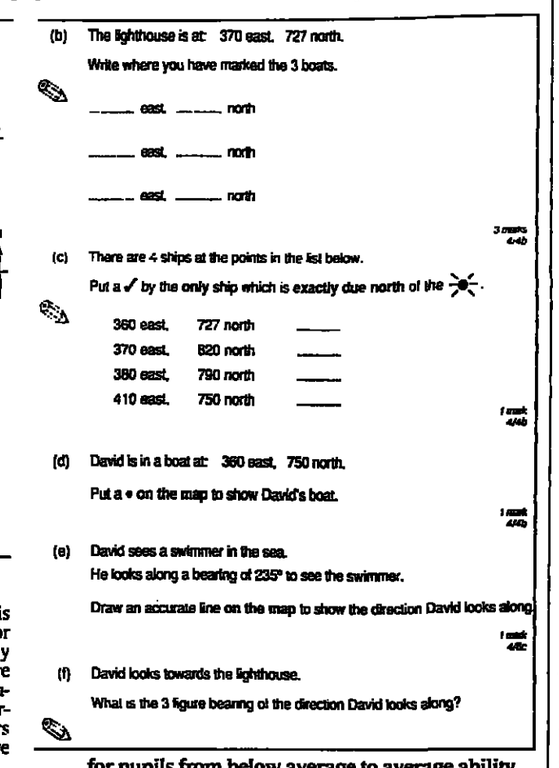
From last year's paper for 14-year-olds: levels 5-7, for average ability and above



From last year's level 6-8 paper, for the brightest pupils — the most difficult of all the 14-year-old tests



A question from last year's paper for levels 4-6 . . .



. . . for pupils from below average to average ability

Many a slip loses marks

PUPILS sitting mathematics tests on Tuesday and Wednesday can improve their marks by ensuring they do not repeat the often careless errors made by candidates last summer.

Government advisers have underlined the importance of pupils showing their working. Remember that candidates can earn some marks for a question even if they get the final answer wrong, provided they show their method and give reasons.

Examiners have drawn up a list of common errors that pupils made in questions at all levels of difficulty last year. By studying the pitfalls, pupils can avoid throwing away marks with the following kinds of errors:

- Putting the decimal point in the wrong place or forgetting it after multiplying or adding whole numbers and decimals. Some pupils put 5 + 6 + 5.8 + 5.8 = 226 or 21.16. Similarly, 32.4 x 10 = 32.4 or 3240.
- Confusing the squaring and doubling of numbers. For example, pupils doubled numbers when attempting to square them, , and were muddled about the difference between halving, doubling, squaring and square-rooting.
- Failing to use shorter methods in calculations and for solving problems. For example, some pupils actually multiplied by 1 on a calculator when asked to evaluate a volume expressed as length x breadth x 1 in a short and accurate way. Others subtracted the area of two semi-circles and then added back on the area of one of these, rather than just subtracting the area once.
- Estimating fractions and percentages badly. For example, some candidates made poor guesses when they were asked to look at a circle which had been divided up into portions (1/2, 1/3 etc) and judge the size of each.
- Not recognising when to use appropriate formulae for areas, Pythagoras' theorem or trigonometry. For example: making no reference to area formulae provided for rectangles, parallelograms or triangles; confusing the area and circumference formulae for circles; failing to remember where Pythagoras' theorem needed to be applied or mistakenly trying to use trigonometry formulae instead.
- Failing to use calculators where appropriate.

BEN PRESTON

SAMPLE TESTS

THE THREE sample questions above come from last year's mathematics tests. They cover three of the four tiers of difficulty for which pupils may be entered without taking an extension paper. Answers will be printed in tomorrow's edition of Testplan.

7 11 14 TESTPLAN

Julian Spicer, provided you are well prepared

"Don't worry! Just do your best. Nobody can ask any more of you than that". Comforting words from my grandmother after some exam in the now distant past. The trouble was, and is, that to go into the exam and do your best on the day is considerably different from making sure you are fully prepared and thus able to produce your best performance. Good preparation is the key to success in next week's mathematics tests.

For most of the pupils sitting down to Paper 1 next Tuesday morning, this will be their first taste of the formality of a public examination. This being so, it is clear that good preparation is more than "revising your maths". You will need three things: familiarity with the organisation and format of the tests, revision of the appropriate content and good exam technique.

■ **Familiarity**: It may seem obvious, but especially for the examination debutants, rule number one is: make sure you know where and when the tests take place. Each test lasts one hour and each pupil will need to bring a pen, pencil, rubber, ruler and calculator.

The tests begin with easier questions, increasing in difficulty as the paper progresses. All questions should be attempted, and all your working and answers should be written on the test paper.

Fortunately, the tests will be much the same as last year's so both the sample questions on this page and test materials issued in October 1993 can be used to acquaint pupils with the style of questions.

■ **Content**: The topics on which you will be tested will be those you should have covered over the last three years. This is not as big a task as it may sound. Mathematics has a linear nature: topics tend to be revisited year after year. This should mean that only the most recent work on a given topic needs revising.

Any formulae specifically relevant to the question, but which pupils are not required to know as part of their study, will be provided in the papers. Pupils entered for Tiers 3-5 or 4-6 will be given the formulae for the area of a triangle, rectangle and parallelogram. Those entered at Tier 5-7 will also be given the volume of a prism and Pythagoras' theorem. In the Tier 6-8 papers the formulae for tangent, sine and cosine are added.

Any pupil taking the extension paper could expect to be given the Sine and Cosine Rules and the Quadratic formula also. The formula for the circumference and area of the circle will not be provided.

Know your calculator. This is particularly important for higher tiers of entry — simply because the applications are greater. The School Curriculum and Assessment Authority recommends that for Tiers 5-7 and 6-8, pupils should have a scientific calculator.

■ **Exam technique**: You will be expected to show your working and reasoning where the questions require it, and particularly where a calculator is not permitted. Marks can be earned even when the final answer is wrong.

Make sure you understand the interpretation of certain key words, such as — "estimate" as opposed to "evaluate" and the meaning of terms such as "describe" (what you do to solve a problem) or "explain" (why it works).

Structure your time in the tests so that you can make an attempt at all questions; in its simplest form this means that after half an hour they should be about half way through.

Julian Spicer is head of mathematics at Lincoln Christ's Hospital School.

A SIMPLE GUIDE TO MATHS REVISION

Tier	Number	Algebra	Shape & Space	Data Handling
3-5	Using multiplication and division to solve problems with and without a calculator Calculating fractions and percentages of quantities	Using number patterns to solve problems Following rules to generate sequences	Reflective and rotational symmetry Coordinates Perimeter	Reading information from tables, bar charts and pictogram Simple probabilities expressed as fractions or percentages
4-6	Ratio	Equations of straight lines Solving simple equations	Drawing 3-D shapes on paper Area of a circle	Scatter graphs
5-7	Rounding to the nearest tenth, ten, hundred, etc	Solving equations using trial and improvement	General rules for sequences	Probability of exclusive event
6-8	Numbers in standard form Solving inequalities	Expanding brackets	Similar figures	Probability of independent events

TOMORROW

Science for 14-year-olds
Next week: how to prepare for the first tests for 11-year-olds

Court of Appeal — Law Report May 4 1995 — Chancery Division

No distress damages in car repair

Alexander v Rolls Royce Motor Cars Ltd

Before Lord Justice Staughton, Lord Justice Beldam and Lord Justice Peter Gibson

[Judgment April 12]

Breach of a contract to repair a motor car did not give rise to a liability for damages for distress and inconvenience or loss of enjoyment in the use of the car.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment dismissing an appeal by the plaintiff, Edmund Alexander, against the decision of Judge Byrt, QC, at the Mayor's and City of London County Court on November 27, 1992 that the defendant, Rolls Royce Motor Cars Ltd, should pay him £10,439.28 damages for breach of a contract to repair his car. The plaintiff argued, inter alia, that the award should have included an amount for disappointment, loss of enjoyment or distress.

Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC and Mr Richard Roberts for the plaintiff: Mr Michael McLaren for Rolls Royce.

LORD JUSTICE BELDAM said that the general rule was that damages for distress, inconvenience or loss of enjoyment were not recovered for breach of an ordinary commercial contract but only when the contract was one for the provision of pleasure, freedom from harassment or relaxation.

Mr Scrivener had attempted to bring the plainiff's contract for the repair of his car within that exceptional class of case by arguing that it was akin to a contract to provide a relaxing holiday or to provide freedom from worry and anxiety. The plaintiff had acquired the Rolls Royce car for his pleasure and to drive on social occasions so that he could enjoy the exceptional experience which ownership of such a prestigious car could bring.

His Lordship did not doubt that it had been the plaintiff's object to enjoy to the full the ownership of his Rolls Royce car. But it by no means followed that every time it was submitted for service or repair those who undertook the work but failed to carry it out with proper care and skill would be answerable in damages for any distress, frustration, anxiety or lack of pleasure caused to the owner.

In his Lordship's view, breach of a contract to repair a motor car, even so prestigious a car as a Rolls Royce, did not give rise to a liability for damages for distress and inconvenience or loss of enjoyment in the use of the car.

Lord Justice Staughton and Lord Justice Peter Gibson agreed.

Solicitors: Martin Smith & Co, Borehamwood; Rowe & Maw.

Sharing post-partnership profits

Popat v Shonchhatra

Before Mr David Neuberger, QC

[Judgment April 4]

Where a partnership in which the partners had made unequal capital contributions to the partnership assets was determinable at will, it was inappropriate to apportion the post-determination capital profits on a 50-50 basis.

On the facts of the instant case the appropriate basis of apportionment was in the same proportion as the partners' original capital contributions to the partnership assets.

Mr David Neuberger, QC, sitting as a deputy judge of the Chancery Division, so held in a reserved judgment in an action brought by Rajendra Popat against Dinesh Shonchhatra.

Mr Aditya Sen for the plaintiff; Mr David Abbott for the defendant.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the plaintiff and defendant entered into a partnership on September 29, 1989 to carry on the business of a newsagent. They acquired leasehold premises together with the goodwill of the business already being carried on there for £87,514.47.

The defendant had provided far more capital than the plaintiff and as the defendant had provided most of the capital, the arrangement between the parties was that the plaintiff would put in most of the labour.

The partnership, which was determinable at will, ended on January 10, 1990 as a result of the partners and their respective wives falling out with each other. Thereafter the defendant carried on the business on his own. He also purchased the freehold of the premises which he sold on July 10, 1992.

It was clear that the post-determination revenue profits of the business, that is, between January 10, 1990 and July 10, 1992, should be apportioned between the plaintiff and the defendant according to the principles laid down by Mr Justice Romer in *Manley v Sartori* ([1927] 1 Ch 157, 162) applying the principles of section 42(1) of the Partnership Act 1890. They should therefore be apportioned on a pro rata basis subject to first allowing to the defendant a proper allowance for his trouble in carrying on the business.

However, as to the capital profit made on the sale of the business, it was clear that the provisions of section 42(1) did not apply, both as a matter of ordinary language and in the light of the decision in *Barclays Bank Trust Co Ltd v Bluff* ([1982] 1 Ch 172).

Mr Sen claimed that the plaintiff was entitled to half the capital profit by virtue of the provisions of section 24(1) of the 1890 Act which provided that, in the absence of any agreement express or implied between the partners "all the partners are entitled to share equally in the capital and profits of the business, and must contribute equally towards the losses whether of capital or otherwise sustained by the firm".

He further pointed to the decision in *Bluff*, where it was held that when a surviving partner, following the dissolution of the partnership by the death of the other partner, carried on the business and eventually sold it as a going concern, he was not entitled to keep the whole of the capital profit resulting from the sale for himself: he was obliged to account to the executors of the deceased partner for their 50 per cent of the capital profit.

That decision was expressly approved by the Privy Council in *Chandroutie v Gajadhar* ([1987] 1 AC 147), where effectively the same result obtained in what was described as an a fortiori case, of a partner being wrongly ousted from the partnership by his co-partner who continued to carry on the business (see p154).

In his Lordship's judgment, section 24(1) of the 1890 Act did not apply to the post-determination capital profits because it appeared to be dealing with the position as between partners during the period of the partnership up to the date of the dissolution of the partnership.

Further, as to the plaintiff relying on *Bluff* and *Chandroutie*, paragraphs 10-163 and 25-25 of *Lindley and Banks on Partnership* (16th edition 1990) seemed to suggest that a different approach was appropriate in relation to capital profits made on the sale of the business assets by the partner who continued the business, where the partnership ended on retirement or lawful expulsion, as in *Sobell v Boston* ([1975] 1 WLR 1587) compared with where the partnership ended due to the death or wrongful exclusion of a partner, as in *Bluff* and *Chandroutie* respectively.

In any event his Lordship was unconvinced that the decisions in *Bluff* and *Chandroutie* in fact supported the plaintiff's argument in this case that the capital profits made between January 1990 and July 1992 should be shared equally between the parties, because in those two cases it appeared that the partners not only shared profits and losses equally, but that they also had equal shares in the total assets of the partnership.

In those circumstances, his Lordship came to the conclusion, with some hesitation, that the appropriate way in which to apportion any capital profit as a result of the sale of the premises and the business in July 1992, on the instant facts, was in the same proportion as the revenue profits, after making an appropriate allowance for the efforts of the defendant, were to be shared.

Solicitors: Simmons, Borehamwood; Lakhani & Co, Wembley.

Suing in place of performance

Atlas Shipping Agency (UK) Ltd and Another v Suisse Atlantique Société d'Armament Maritime SA and Others

Before Mr Justice Rix

[Judgment April 6]

Where a buyer contracted with a seller to pay commission to the broker of their purchase arrangement, the broker's right to sue them as trustees of the commission money amounted to "matters relating to a contract" for the purposes of article 5(1) of the Lugano Convention so that, exceptionally, the brokers could sue in the jurisdiction of the place of performance of the obligation to pay commission rather than in the jurisdiction of the defendants' place of domicile.

Mr Justice Rix so held in the Queen's Bench Division when upholding the right of Atlas Shipping Agency (UK) Ltd and United Shipping Services Ltd to pursue within the English jurisdiction their claim in equity against Suisse Atlantique Société d'Armament Maritime SA, Labuk Bay Shipping Inc and Ulugan Bay Shipping Inc for the payment of shipbroking fees and dismissing the defendants' application for refusal of English jurisdiction.

Article 5 of the Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters, made at Lugano on September 16, 1988 (Cmd 1362) provides: "A person domiciled in a contracting state may, in another contracting state, be sued: (1) in matters relating to a contract, in the courts for the place of performance of the obligation in question. . ."

Mr Simon Croall for the plaintiff brokers; Mr Guy Morpuss for the defendant buyers: the sellers did not appear and were not represented..

MR JUSTICE RIX said that Atlas had earned commission by arranging the sale of two vessels by Labuk and Ulugan to Suisse Atlantique. The contract of sale laid the onus of paying the commission on Suisse Atlantique and Atlas had sought the commission money on the basis that it was held by the parties to the sale as trustees.

His Lordship bore in mind that the special jurisdiction under article 5 was a derogation from the underlying philosophy that jurisdiction was vested in the country where the defendant was domiciled and must therefore be interpreted restrictively. Even so the present claim was within the spirit and letter of article 5(1).

Suisse Atlantique were being sued in the proceedings "in matters relating to a contract". The obligation in question was the alleged implied promise given by the buyers that, if they took the appropriate deduction from the purchase price, they would pay over that deduction in the form of commissions to the brokers.

It was common ground that the place of performance of the obligation was England and Suisse Atlantique's challenge to the jurisdiction of the English courts failed.

Solicitors: Duval Vassiliades; Jackson Parton.

Duty to provide accommodation

Regina v Wandsworth London Borough Council, Ex parte Beckwith

Before Mr Justice Popplewell

[Judgment April 11]

A local authority had a duty to provide accommodation for each of the six classes of person referred to in section 21 of the National Assistance Act 1948, as amended by the National Health Service and Community Care Act 1990, and had not discharged its duty by providing for only one or some of the classes so defined.

Mr Justice Popplewell so held in the Queen's Bench Division when giving judgment for Mr William Beckwith, a retired person who lived at George Potter House, Battersea. Mr Beckwith applied for judicial review of the decision of Wandsworth London Borough Council on December 7, 1994 to close George Potter House and to sell its remaining residential care homes for elderly people to the private sector, and to cease to be a provider of residential care for elderly people.

Mr Richard Gordon, QC and Mr Alan Maclean for Mr Beckwith: Mr Alan Wilkie, QC and Mr Clive Sheldon for Wandsworth.

MR JUSTICE POPPLEWELL said that the council had argued that there was nothing in the relevant statutory provisions, the 1948 Act as amended by the 1990 Act, which required it to keep one managed premises for each of the classes of person cited in section 21 of the 1948 Act and that it was open to it to dispose of all its residential care homes provided it still kept places for people with learning disabilities or people with mental health problems.

Mr Beckwith contended that the council was bound to retain at least one of its homes designed for residential care. That issue depended on the construction of sections 21 and 26 of the 1948 Act, as amended by the 1990 Act.

His Lordship was persuaded that the provisions of section 21(1) did envisage different classes of person to whom the duty was owed and for whom different provisions needed to be made. That construction fitted in with the idea of a mixed economy of care rather than the construction contended for by the council.

It was a further issue whether the council had misinterpreted Department of Health statistics regarding the number of surplus beds during the 1988 to 1994 period.

Having been wrongly advised that there was an oversupply of residential care for elderly people in the borough, the council concluded that it was entitled to dispose of all its four residential care homes: accordingly, the question as to what it should do if it was not in law allowed to dispose of all its residential homes was never considered by it.

His Lordship therefore quashed the whole of the council's decision and submitted the matter to it for reconsideration.

Solicitors: Miss Gabrielle O'Connor, Wandsworth; Mr Martin Walker, Wandsworth.

Joining counts for murder

Regina v Schepke

It was quite justifiable to join counts of conspiracy to murder and aiding and abetting murder in the same indictment, since the ingredients of the offences were different.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Swinton Thomas, Mr Justice Latham and Mr Justice Morison) so held on April 7 in dismissing an appeal by Stephen Schepke against his conviction on October 20, 1993 at Carlisle Crown Court (Mr Justice Morland and a jury) of aiding and abetting murder for which he was sentenced to life imprisonment.

LORD JUSTICE SWINTON THOMAS said that the joinder of the two counts, conspiracy to murder (count 1) and aiding and abetting murder (count 2), was justified.

Count 2 was not a substantive offence which was merely an example of the overt acts of a conspiracy, such as, for example, where an accused man was charged with conspiracy to rob and specific offences of robbery.

The aiding and abetting charge was a separate and distinct charge from the conspiracy, and the ingredients of the two offences were different.

Count 1 required proof of an agreement to kill and count 2 required proof of acts aiding and abetting murder.

The two offences were closely allied but were, none the less, distinct.

Redundancy claim was delayed

Crawford v Secretary of State for Employment

An employee of a company which became insolvent should not wait for the outcome of other proceedings to determine whether there had been a transfer of an undertaking so as to give him continuity of employment, but should make his claim for a redundancy payment both to the employer and to the Secretary of State for Employment as soon as possible.

Mr Justice Mummery, so stated when, sitting with Mr K. Hack and Mr P. Smith on April 25, the Employment Appeal Tribunal dismissed an appeal by an employee from the finding by an industrial tribunal that he was not entitled to a redundancy payment from the secretary of state following his employers' insolvency because his claim was out of time.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the applicant had taken none of the steps to claim a redundancy payment within the prescribed time limit because it was the view of the secretary of state that he was not entitled to one as there had been a relevant transfer.

It was important to bear in mind that the secretary of state did not assume the role of an adviser. His position was not that of an independent neutral person.

Whatever the secretary of state might say in relation to the position had to be viewed as a statement by him as a potential party and not as an authoritative statement of the legal position.

هكذا من الأصل



■ FILM 1

Tim Roth plays a hitman (again) in *Little Odessa*, a doom-laden tale of violent Brooklyn streets



■ FILM 2

Less-is-more department: on a budget of not quite £20,000, *Clerks* creates a wry comic world

THE TIMES
ARTS



■ FILM 3

Thuggery on the football terraces is the subject of a grainy British film, *i.d.*, made by actor Philip Davis



■ RADIO

Now that Radio 1 is heading back downmarket in the company of Chris Evans, should it be privatised?

Assassination and characters

CINEMA: Debutants have a ball but, **Geoff Brown** writes, for every Cinderella there is a pumpkin or two



Just for a change, Tim Roth gets to have the drop on someone in his role as a hitman in James Gray's gloomily impressive first feature *Little Odessa*

American youth takes the helm this week. James Gray wrote and directed *Little Odessa* when he was 24. "I'm so young, I'm afterbirth!" he joked during production. Not as young as Kevin Smith, however, who made *Clerks* at the ripe age of 23.

The two first features could almost have come from different planets. *Little Odessa* is laden with gloom, deliberate in style, drenched in dark, silky colours lightly flecked with winter snow. *Clerks* is a rough, profane comedy, shot in the murkiest black-and-white, with no filmic pretensions at all.

The differences reflect the directors' backgrounds. Gray emerged from the University of Southern California's film school, a breeding ground for sleek image merchants. Smith spent four months at Vancouver's film school, but received most inspiration, one suspects, from comic books and disreputable movies on TV.

Both films are impressive, in various ways. **Little Odessa** may suffer from over-solemnity, but Gray displays astonishing control over his resources. The scene is Brooklyn's Brighton Beach, home to Russian immigrants, where crime proliferates in seedy cafés and backstreet alleys, and no one wears anything but black.

Tim Roth plays a professional killer of Russian-Jewish descent, a robot with a gun who returns to the neighbourhood to carry out a hit and visit his estranged family. There is no happy homecoming. Mother (Vanessa Redgrave) is dying from a brain tumour. Father (Maximilian Schell) spits venom at the son who dishonours the family name. At least his worshipping kid brother (Edward Furlong) is pleased to see him.

Mixed in with family moans come shootings, a kidnapping and an incineration in a garbage dump. Although Gray cultivates the atmosphere of his action scenes, highlighting the sounds of ticking clocks or passing trains, catching a gunman's outline through a sheet hung up to dry, he shows less care with motivations. Since it is never made clear why people get shot, our sympathy for the victims is limited. Presumably, Gray wished to keep the plot on an abstract level, to fit the film's grandiose sweep.

In any event, there is enough fine acting and visual spectacle to keep up momentum. Undue wailing by Russian choirs rather damages the soundtrack, but the film's excesses are always those of a director with ambition and a clear personal vision.

On, now, to **Clerks**. Woken from sleep in what seems to be a clothes closet, Dante Hicks answers the phone. His boss is calling, asking him to put in an extra shift at QuickStop Groceries in Leonardo, New Jersey, the sort of town drivers pass through quickly. Hicks opens up the convenience store, only to find the window shutters jammed with gum.

Customers trickle in, some harmless, some crazed, some shuffling off to the employees' rest room, equipped with a porn magazine. Dante's girlfriend brings unhelpful news: she has performed fellatio on 37 men. At one point the coroner needs to be called. As the madness mounts and his life unravels, Dante bleats his rueful refrain: "I'm not even supposed to be here today."

QuickStop Groceries was Smith's own place of work, and shooting took place after hours: hence the gum that jams the shutters for the daytime scenes, hiding the exterior gloom. The adjacent video store, where Dante's friend Randal flings insults at unlucky customers, served as the editing base. The budget was $27,575.

In some respects we get what Smith and his co-producer Scott Mosier paid for: grainy black-and-white images, constricted camerawork, less than sumptuous sound. Luckily, good talk is cheap too, and Smith's portrait of what the advertisements call "over-the-counter culture" leaps from one rude and witty exchange to the next.

Like the characters of Smith's hero, Richard Linklater, those who gravitate to QuickStop Groceries chatter endlessly about sexual habits and video rentals: the minutest details of dull daily life. Smith's no-frills style places a great burden on the performers, but these young local actors with no cinema experience never stumble. Brian O'Halloran's Dante is a quiet delight as he struggles to get through a day he thought he would spend sleeping in and playing hockey. The showiest role, though, goes to Jeff Anderson as Randal, the video store clerk with no conception of public service, who spends most of the day in *QuickStop*, rattling on about *Return of the Jedi*, spewing drink at an annoying customer and idly selling cigarettes to a four-year old child. As a human being he may be appalling, but he is a memorable comic creation.

The week's third debut feature, **i.d.**, comes from the British actor Philip Davis, familiar from Mike Leigh's *High Hopes* as the kindly left-wing hero, Cyril. His manner of direction is plain, if not blunt; but then who needs fancy arabesques when the story concerns an undercover cop's transformation into a braying, pot-bellied football hooligan? Davis (*interviewed below*) keeps a tight grip on his actors, and never loses the focus in ensemble scenes in the London pub where Reece Dinsdale's John and four police colleagues infiltrate the rowdies. At times, he even manages to suggest match excitement without showing the players on the field.

Unfortunately, neither director nor players can vault over all the bad patches in Vincent O'Connell's script. The deterioration of John's home life is crudely documented ("What's wrong with happy sex?" his wife asks plaintively after a mauling in bed.) Football hooliganism itself is depicted through the broadest strokes: we are never taken inside the condition, or shown its social context.

But the film's forceful use of a topical British issue remains welcome; doubly so in a week that also brings **The Steal**, yet another first feature. This dismal British comedy-adventure from TV director John Hay limps through a meandering plot about computer hacking, destruction of a Third World paradise, Morris Minors, and the kinky doings of the British aristocracy. Alfred Molina displays spirit, but no one can save this heap of dated whimsy, the worst British film for years.

Milk Money is the only one of this week's films from an established cinema director, the former actor Richard Benjamin. But practice does not necessarily make perfect. Melanie Griffith, hitting a low point in her career, plays a city prostitute lured to the suburbs by a wan little 12-year-old who sees her as perfect wife material for his widowed father (Ed Harris). Very mild comedy ensues.

Little Odessa
MGM Haymarket
15, 98 mins
Striking, doom-laden family saga

Clerks
Metro, 18, 90 mins
Rough-edged and funny

i.d.
MGM Trocadero
18, 107 mins
Football hooligan drama

The Steal
Warner West End
PG, 91 mins
British piffle

Milk Money
Plaza, 12, 109 mins
Tart finds heart. Yawn

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The BBC should abandon pop music radio, writes **Peter Barnard**

One too many

WHAT'S to be done about Radio 1? If that question has the rhythm of one of the network's jingles, then perhaps even the brief time span I have devoted to **The Breakfast Show** under the new custodianship of Chris Evans is partly to blame.

Evans is a brilliant broadcaster, but on Radio 1 he is dealing in pap, even if it is high-gloss pap, not to say high-cost pap at a reported £5,000 a week. There may be something to be said for encouraging girls to ring up from their beds to talk about their boyfriends' lollipops, but I am not here to say it.

However, it is reasonable to conclude that Radio 1 is now headed downmarket at some speed, outpaced only by its fleeing audience. On this week's figures of a further 500,000 lost between January and March, the audience is setting a hot pace.

But the micro-debate, about what can be done to bring back listeners, is suppressing the macro-debate, which ought to be about whether the game is worth the candle.

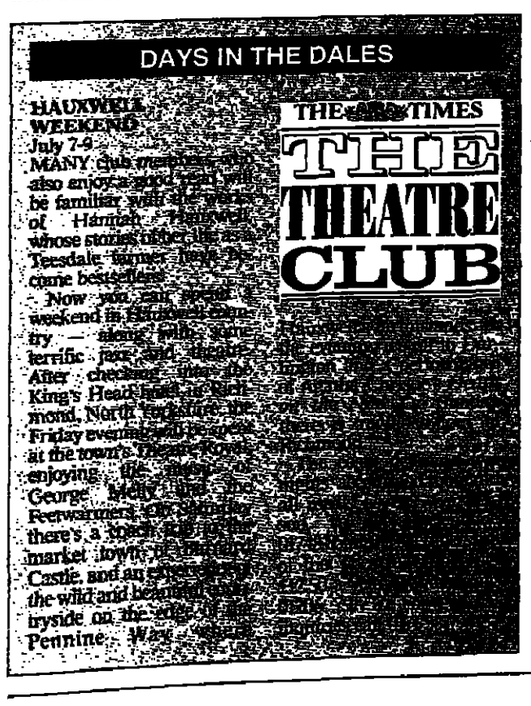
If you think that the BBC should have a higher agenda than pursuing numbers, and if we accept that popular music radio is a competitive and largely downmarket field, then there is only one sensible option: sell Radio 1 in order to invest elsewhere.

If this sounds like a heresy, then so be it. The fact is that this week the BBC announced £20 million spending cuts in its prestige arts and documentary budgets: last year Radio 1 spent £32 million. If we are to be told that the overall radio and television budgets are autonomous, that losing Radio 1 would not necessarily produce more arts and drama, then the question is: why not?

The BBC says that to stop the rot at Radio 1 it proposes to attract more young listeners, meaning that licence payers are to subsidise the de facto purchase of non-licence payers. Furthermore, "young people" — who have long enjoyed an almost mythical status in the BBC — are the very group most inclined to listen to tapes, CDs and vinyl more than they listen to the radio.

The most logical conclusion is to let the private sector do what it does best and free resources for the BBC to do even better what the private sector shows no interest in.

DAYS IN THE DALES



HAUXWELL WEEKEND
July 7-9
MANY club members also enjoy a good yarn, will be familiar with the works of Harriet Hauxwell, whose stories of life in Teesdale farmer have become bestsellers.
Now you can spend a weekend in Hauxwell country — along with some terrific jazz and theatre. After checking into the King's Head hotel in Richmond, North Yorkshire, on Friday evening, you'll be at the town's Theatre Royal enjoying the play George Melly and his Feetwarmers. On Saturday there's a stroll around the market town, a visit to Castle, and an opportunity to the wild and beautiful dale countryside on the edge of the Pennine Way.

THE TIMES
THE THEATRE CLUB

Yobs for the boys

Actor and director Philip Davis has frightened even himself with *i.d.*

Researching a film role, Philip Davis found himself in the company of men whose idea of fun was to go to football matches and slice people with razors: "Violence, they said, is the best drug in the world, because of the sense of exhilaration and euphoria."

Directed by Davis, *i.d.* tells how one man, an undercover policeman, is seduced by that drug. The film is an exploration of what Davis describes as "the dark side of the male psyche, man's primeval instinct for violence".

At 41, Davis has the quiet assurance of a man who listens a lot, and hears more than most. As an actor, writer and now film director, he has a reputation for highlighting those aspects of life that many would prefer not to think about. Brought up on an east London council estate, he wanted to act from an early age, although he has no idea why. A shy boy, he did badly at school, but amateur dramatics led to his joining the National Youth Theatre. "That was the first time I met kids from different backgrounds," he says. "It made me a bit monosyllabic."

But not for long. At 16, he left school to join Joan Littlewood's company and spent the 1970s and 1980s making a name for himself as an actor at the Royal Court, the RSC and in films such as *Quadrophenia* and *The Firm*. He cut his teeth as a writer and director "bunging on my plays in rooms above pubs".

i.d. is his second collaboration with writer Vincent O'Connell. "We were doing *Life's a Gas*, a Channel 4 short, when Vince showed me a draft of *i.d.* I was immediately drawn to the idea of a man who becomes the thing he pretends to be. Coming from where I come from, and doing what I do, I've felt undercover most of my life."



Philip Davis: "I've felt undercover most of my life"

Rather than focusing on actual physical violence, Davis concentrates on what he feels is far more important — the anticipation of the football hooligan, the adrenalin building, and the euphoric after-effect of having sailed so close to the wind. The result is a film that goes a long way to answering *why?*, without ever having a character talk about it.

"In the early stages, one potential backer wanted an explanation in the script of why these kids did it. I thought, how can I possibly answer this question?" Davis says. "It's not just about any one thing, it's a combination of lots of things: a corrupt political system, unemployment, a world where people live without purpose or justice. Football hooliganism has been around since the 1930s, but the breakdown of community has made it altogether more random and vicious than it used to be. I believe we'll be dealing with the effects of this well into the next century."

The point is made in the film that football hooligans are not necessarily young. "A lot of these men are my age, with families and mortgages, but on Saturdays they turn into 16-year-olds because they find it incredibly liberating: the sheer pleasure of doing things you know are wrong.

"In *i.d.*, the main character squeezes himself into shoes he doesn't feel belong to him. Then he suddenly finds he feels complete, there's no political correctness any more in the way he speaks to people. He feels more powerful.

"By the end of the film, he's on a personal quest. He has gone undercover to look at the heart of his own darkness, reaching down to see just how bad he can be. This is what we should be worrying about, not football hooliganism. It's more dangerous by far."

ROS DRINKWATER

FROM VAUGHAN WILLIAMS TO KENNETH WILLIAMS.

FRIDAY AFTERNOONS ON RADIO 3. **'MINING THE ARCHIVE'**, 3:00PM - 4:20PM.
FOLLOWED BY CLASSIC BBC RADIO COMEDY IN **'TURNS OF THE CENTURY'**, 4:20PM - 4:30PM.

BBC RADIO



TODAY

At the Design Museum, the architectural genius of Frank Lloyd Wright is celebrated



TONIGHT

A danced homage to Purcell in his tercentenary year: Matthew Hawkins comes to the Hackney Empire

THE TIMES ARTS



THEATRE 1

A Jewish violinist ruminates on the Holocaust in Bernard Kops's *Call in the Night* in Leeds



THEATRE 2

Kathryn Hunter stars in a compelling staging of Tennessee Williams's *The Rose Tattoo*

LONDON

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT IN CHICAGO The brilliance of the early years of America's most revered architect goes on view today. Wright's work from 1887 to 1915 runs from his celebrated Prairie Style domestic architecture to one of the most original office buildings ever conceived, the Larkin Company Administration Building in New York. Over 250 exhibits, many rarely seen in public, bring together his furniture, art glass, ceramics, architectural drawings, lighting, specially-commissioned models, large-scale photographs and video presentations.
Design Museum, Butler's Wharf, Shad Thames, SE1 (0171-403 6933). Mon-Fri, 11.30am-6pm; Sat-Sun, 12noon-6pm Until Sept 3

MATTHEW HAWKINS. One of Britain's most imaginative and individual choreographers offers a three-day feast in his new homage to Purcell. Expect invention, understanding and a hint of irreverence, too
Hackney Empire, Mare Street, E8 (0181-985 2424) Tonight-Sat, 8pm

PASSION KILLERS. The award-winning Mecklenburgh Opera presents what promises to be a highly theatrical evening of music drama with a triple bill of one-act operas by Stephen Oliver

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

Bad Times, *The Garden* and *Exposition of a Picture* were written separately but all belong to a Hitchcock-esque world of chic, elegant exteriors concealing a great many secret desires.
Young Vic, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm; mat Sat, 3.30pm

ELSEWHERE

MANCHESTER. Hard-hitting scenes and brutal language in **Generations of the Dead in the Abyss of Coney Island**, by Michael Henry Brown, author of *The Day the Bronx Died*. Benjamin Twist directs the story of a golden boy turned monster.
Contact, Oxford Road (0161-274 4400). Previews tonight, opens Fri, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, until May 27.

ABERDEEN. Three Steps to Heaven, David Cosgrove's witty 1950s musical, continues its national tour. Buddy Holly, Richie Valens and the Big Bopper board their doomed plane to Fargo and land in a celestial limbo-land. Directed by Jeremy Raison and described as "musically out of this world"
His Majesty's, Rosemount Viaduct (01224 641122). Tonight, 7.30pm, Fri-Sat, 8pm and 9pm. Next stop, **Bristol, Hippodrome** (0117-929 9444).

BASINGSTOKE. August Bournonville's *Dances from Napoli* and Mauro Bigonzetti's *X N Tricities* are just two of the delights in **English National Ballet's** spring touring programme. The *Grand Pas de Deux* from *Sleeping Beauty* and the *Grand Pas* from *Paquita* are perfect classical showcases
Anvil, Churchill Lane (01256 844244). Tonight, 7.30pm, tomorrow, 2pm and 7.30pm

LONDON GALLERIES

Serbian Impressionism in Britain, final week (0171-638-4141) . **British Museum:** European Applied Arts Galleries (0171-636 1555) . . . **National Gallery:** Spanish Still Life: from Velásquez to Goya (0171-839 3321) . **National Portrait Gallery:** Richard Avedon (0171-306 0055) . . **Royal Academy:** Odilon Redon (0171-439 7438) . . . **Tate:** Willem de Kooning, final week; Art Now: new gallery space (0171-887 8000) . . . **V & A:** Prints of the Raphael Cartoons (0171-938 8500)

DEALER'S CHOICE: Patrick Marber's fascinating poker drama, transferred from the National. Funny one-liners abound, along with perceptions of the roots of gambling
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

THE DUCHESS OF MALFI. Juliet Stevenson and Simon Russell Beale in Webster's tragedy of incest, murder and the borderland of the mind. Philip Franks directs Greenwich Theatre's sell-out success.
Wyndhams, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1748). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

IN PRAISE OF LOVE. Peter Bowles and Lisa Harrow in Rattigan drama about bravely facing death. Interesting and finally touching as it shows the effects of emotional restraint.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm

JEFFREY. Christopher Villiers plays a New Yorker tuned in to total abstinence: eight other actors play 42 of his friends and connections. Tim Luscombe directs Paul Rudnick's Off-Broadway hit.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Previews begin tonight, 7.45pm, opens May 9.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◪ **Some seats available**
□ **Seats at all prices**

□ **THE KILLING OF SISTER GEORGE.** Miriam Margolyes plays the tweedy soap heroine in Frank Marcus's excellent comedy with a bite. Serena Evans and Josephine Tewson play her treacherous companion and boss.
Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (0171-836 6111). Mon-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 8.30pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5.30pm.

□ **THE PLOUGH AND THE STARS.** Joe Dowling's all-Irish production of O'Casey, acclaimed on tour and in London for six weeks.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5510). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm.

◪ **RETREAT.** Tim Pigott-Smith plays a man retired to his Welsh cottage and talented newcomer Victoria Hamilton is an unsettling visitor. Sam Walters directs poignant James Saunders play
Orange Tree, Clarence Street, Richmond (0181-940 3633). Previews begin tonight, 7.45pm; opens May 9, 7.45pm.

□ **THE SILVER TASSIE.** Sean O'Casey's fierce and haunting anti-war drama, not seen in London since 1969. What happens to a Dublin soccer hero after he volunteers in 1914. Lynne Parker directs a large cast.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404). Previews begin tonight, 8pm; opens May 10 ◪

■ **SKYLIGHT.** Opening night for Michael Gambon and Lia Williams as an estranged couple, with the man's son pleading for their reconciliation. Richard Eyre directs David Hare's tenth play for the National
National, (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight, 7pm; then Fri-Wed, 7.30pm, mats Sat, Wed, 2.30. ◪

□ **VICTOR AND THE LADIES.** Rudolph Walker plays a widower with 18 daughters and many other women keen to be with him. Paulette Randall directs a comedy by Jenny McLeod, said to shake the PC bastions of feminist good taste
Tricycle, Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Previews begin tonight, 8pm; opens May 8 ◪

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

NEW RELEASES

CAPTIVES (15): Romance in a prison dentist's surgery. Modest British film that loses its way in melodrama, with Tim Roth and Julia Ormond.
MGM Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

EXOTICA (18): Inventive variations on the theme of voyeurism from quirky Canadian director Atom Egoyan. With Bruce Greenwood, Mia Kirshner.
Clapham Picture (0171-498 3323) **Lumière** (0171-836 0691) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030)

EYES WITHOUT A FACE (18): Welcome revival of Georges Franju's haunting horror film about skin grafting, made in 1958.
ICA ◪ (0171-930 3647)

◆ **LEGENDS OF THE FALL** (15): Bogus epic about a Montana family early in the century. With Brad Pitt, Aidan Quinn and Anthony Hopkins. Director, Edward Zwick.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Coronet** ◪ (0171-727 6705) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915883) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914096) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

THIN ICE (12): Gauche but sweet British film about lesbian ice-skaters. Fiona Cunningham Reid directs Charlotte Avery and Sabra Williams.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **MGM Tottenham Court Rd** (0171-636 6148)

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

CURRENT

◆ **AN AWFULLY BIG ADVENTURE** (15): A teenager's postwar theatre experiences. Fascinating abrasive drama from Beryl Bainbridge's novel with Alan Rickman and Hugh Grant.
MGMix: Fulham Road ◪ (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

DEATH AND THE MAIDEN (18): A decent transfer of Ariel Dorfman's play, but a cramped, impersonal film for Roman Polanski. With Sigourney Weaver, Ben Kingsley, Stuart Wilson.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891) **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Screen/Hill** ◪ (0171-435 3366)

◆ **DUMB & DUMBER** (12): Idiotic, good-natured comedy that outstays its welcome, with Jim Carrey, Jeff Daniels.
MGMix: Baker Street (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Odeons: Swiss Cottage** (01426 914096) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **JUST CAUSE** (18): Harvard law professor Sean Connery wrestles with a murder case in Florida. Ludicrous investigative thriller, with Laurence Fishburne. Director, Arne Glimcher.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **NOBODY'S FOOL** (15): Endearing slice of small-town Americana, with Paul Newman, Melanie Griffith, Bruce Wilks and Jessica Tandy. Writer-director, Robert Benton
Empire (0800 888911) **MGM Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914096)

◆ **ONE HUNDRED AND ONE DALMATIANS** (U): Disney's pleasant, witty cartoon version of Dodie Smith's book about endangered puppies, first released in 1961
UCI Whiteleys ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **OUTBREAK** (18): Taut virus thriller that turns silly. With Dustin Hoffman and Rene Russo and Morgan Freeman. Director, Wolfgang Petersen
MGMix: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332) **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **QUIZ SHOW** (15): Director Robert Redford resurrects a TV scandal of the late 1950s. Fine performances (John Turturro, Ralph Fiennes, Paul Scofield), but not enough bite, or relevance.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031)

THEATRE: Love finds a way, even in Tennessee Williams; plus a new Bernard Kops play

Happy state of Tennessee

The Rose Tattoo
Theatr Clwyd, Mold



Despite appearances, Kathryn Hunter and Marcello Magni are on their way to true love in *The Rose Tattoo*

Tennessee Williams's fourth major play, strikingly different in tone from its famous predecessors, *The Glass Menagerie* and *A Streetcar Named Desire*, binds loosely two love stories, both of which end joyfully. The older couple spend the night in bed together and the young couple arrange to meet in New Orleans to do likewise.

We are left in no doubt that all four individuals are caught up in the delirium of sexual liberation, and to cap the triumph Williams makes the older woman, Serafina Delle Rose, (Kathryn Hunter), sense that she has conceived, and her lover clambers onto the tin roof of her house, up there by the weathercock, to share his exuberance with the neighbours gathering in the yard below. Sexual desire has won out over repression and hypocrisy.

Serafina is a Sicilian American, married at 14, widowed at 26, and for the next three years a virtual recluse, venerating the memory of her husband, Rosario, whose ashes she all but worships in their marble urn beneath her statue of the Virgin. Everyone but her knows Rosario was unfaithful, and the shock of eventual discovery propels her into the arms of Alvaro, a truck driver like her husband and with a similar physique, but with the face and behaviour of a clown.

Overnight she ends her furiously puritan supervision of Rosa, her Juliet-aged daughter (the spirited Rebecca Johnson), urging her instead to join her shy sailor boy and enjoy life. Serafina's 180-degree turnaround has something to be said against it, but in performance such objections remain subliminal. Liberation and expression are all.

Williams manages this trick not so much by his copious use of erotic imagery — although roses are everywhere and periodically a goat rampages through the yard in search of tomatoes. The masterstroke is to make Alvaro's courtship comic as well as serious. The comedy deepens the seriousness.

Hunter seemed to be holding back from expressing the fuller reaches of her early grief. The outbursts are flavoured with sexual memories but her voice still sounded constrained. But the scene with the awkward sailor, Jack, brought into her parlour to be introduced and forced to take a vow of sexual purity in front of the Virgin, was nicely played by Hunter and Benedick Bates, coltishly eager to mollify this alarming female in her stained pink slip.

In the sustained duologues with Marcello Magni's Alvaro, Hunter reveals the strength of her performance. They act together beautifully, with bold gestures apologetically withdrawn, breaking into devil-may-care dance and breaking back into the safety of dignified restraint.

The emotional territory covered even makes the happy end plausible, in a rich production by Helena Kaut-Howson that flows smoothly, on a revolve, between cramped parlour and busy yard, although the acoustics of the overheard phone calls could be improved. Pamela Howard's design stands Serafina's house against swamp-country haze that of course turns rose-coloured by the end.

Rose Williams, Tennessee's beloved sister, had been moved into an asylum by the time the play was written: but for her no sexual liberation would ever come.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Hammer Holocaust

Call in the Night
West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds

LAST year Bernard Kops gave us his adaptation of *The Diary of Anne Frank*. This year he has come up with what feels like a more personal play on the same subject, a portrait of a famous Jewish violinist tormented by half-angry, half-guilty thoughts of the parents and siblings who sent him to safety in England while they stayed and were murdered on the continent. Whatever may be urged for or against *Call in the Night*, the memory-packed spring of 1995 is the right time to present it.

"Get that bloody Holocaust off your back, it gives you a stoop," says Adele, who became his girlfriend, then his mistress, after they came from Germany to pre-war Yorkshire. But that is not so easy. When he arrives from London to give a celebrity concert in Leeds, his mother and sister are in the bedroom wardrobe. So is his own younger self, sometimes with and sometimes without the girl Adele.

Jude Kelly's production is terrific when it uses the clank of cattletrucks, the roar of Nazi crowds and forlorn figures with suitcases to evoke a menacing, ugly atmosphere; but its surreal tricks with magically glowing hotel furniture do somewhat pall.

Gary Waldhorn, his voice rasping and grinding like an un-oiled ratchet, is splendidly abrasive as the protagonist, Hugo Bauer; but even he cannot disguise the fact that Kops has written an uneven play. Its back, too, stoops as he struggles to do justice to the century's most impossible subject, the Holocaust. Certainly, the characters that Bauer encounters are thinly drawn. They are, most of them, victims of a story that seems designed to show exemplary problems and pressures rather than the quirky contradictions of living history.

At any rate, we watch Hugo Snr conversing with Hugo Jnr (a touchingly truculent Samuel Mumford), misusing his mistress, losing his wife, breaking down at his Leeds concert, then going to Berlin to accept the German honour that his unforgiving instincts want to refuse. There, he insults a journalist, only to learn she is his grandson's fiancée. As if that were not coincidence enough, he then has a violent contretemps at the marriage picnic with the girl's grandfather, who turns out to have been guilty of anti-Semitic atrocities.

Actually, John Branwell's drunken ravings and self-accusing ramblings give this last character first-hand energy; but you cannot quite forget that its origins are second-hand melodrama.

We are to believe, it seems, that Hugo's obsessive rage partly derives from his bitterness at a mother who forced him to leave home rather than letting him die with the family. The sometimes prolix, heavy, even stagey dialogue does not make Kops's analysis of a split mind more credible or, for that matter, add to the general sense of reality. But Waldhorn could not have produced so potent a mix of impishness, cynicism and baffled fury if the main part was not a lot better written than those around it. There at least Kops has not shortchanged the Holocaust.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr) **ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA** Tonight 7.00 **COSI FAN TUTTE**

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 0171 304 4000 for Box Off & Standby Info. Tickets avail on the day
The Royal Opera
Tonight, Tomor (Last Night) 6.30 **KING ARTHUR**
The Royal Ballet
Sat, Tue 7.30 **STRAVINSKY STAGED.** Mon, Wed 7.30 **Forsythe's FIRSTEXT / STEPTEXT/Tetley's LA RONDE/Ashton's RHAPSODY.**

THEATRES

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Opening Night 25 May

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ONE FINE DAY
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Eves 8pm. Mats Thur 3, Sat 5 **LAST WEEK!**

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APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6043 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 0171 416 6075/ 413 3321 **Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of**
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■ PROMS 1

John Drummond bows out as Proms director with a bumper centenary season of premieres



■ PROMS 2

. . . including, on the First Night, Andrew Davis conducting Mahler's gigantic Eighth Symphony

THE TIMES
ARTS



■ MUSIC

Meanwhile, Sir Georg Solti brings together two orchestras for one concert in the Festival Hall



■ DANCE

Paying its historical dues: the Monte Carlo Ballet performs Fokine and Balanchine

Past masters of dazzling display

DANCE

Monte Carlo Ballet
Sadler's Wells

YOU might consider that a ballet company founded ten years ago, in a bijou principality with a bijou opera house, has the ring of a young upstart with ambitious pretensions. But you would be wrong. The Monte Carlo Ballet's ancestry goes back to the beginning of this century and pre-dates our own national ballet. Diaghilev's Ballets Russes made Monte Carlo their home, and so did subsequent companies, incorporating Monte Carlo in their name.

So it was a neat historical reminder for the Monte Carlo Ballet to open its first London season with a programme including two Diaghilev protégés — Fokine and Balanchine. Fokine's *Scheherazade*, which in 1910 pitched its Paris audience into a delicious tremble, nowadays seems quaint and occasionally giggle-worthy rather than shockingly erotic.

But the designs, recreating Bakst's cushioned and brocaded Arabian harem, still fill the eye with a glorious symphony of jewel colours. The Golden Slave's bouffant pantaloons shine goldenly.

In photographs of him in the role, Nijinsky conveys an exotic animality, a sensual abandon; no wonder he was the choice morsel for the Sultana Zobeide's orgiastic desire. That quality eluded Francesco Nappa's tenser outlines on Tuesday, but he was tremendous in the darting jump with which he dodges the avenging blade of the scimitar, before succumbing, his body arching head-first like a bow, legs and feet pointing upwards with perfect, balletic artificiality. Paola Cantalupo's narrow silhouette and quivering profile recalled the original Zobeide, the spectacular Ida Rubenstein.

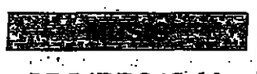
The dancers are young, attractive and have great technical polish. Balanchine's *Who Cares?* held no fears for them. Jean-Charles Gil, slim, handsome and highly rated by the French, was too short for his first partner, Bernice Coppieters, who cut the air with incredibly long, stately limbs. But it's not every day you see a man with such lightness, breadth and piercing clarity.

The harsh brass section of the London Gala Orchestra, under David Garforth's baton, did battle with the other instruments in both *Who Cares?* (Gershwin) and *Scheherazade* (Rimsky-Korsakov).

Hervé Billaut, the pianist for *Who Cares?*, played the Scriabin pieces that accompanied *Dov'è la Luna*, a new work by the company's director and prolific choreographer, Jean-Christophe Maillot. The dancers' beautifully graphic, articulated rituals extended the grammar of classic ballet satisfyingly. But the underlying message of all this seemed not so much oblique as obscure.

NADINE MEISNER

Concerted effort



LPO/RPO/Solti
Festival Hall

ON TUESDAY night, in an unprecedented gala event organised to boost the benevolent funds of the two orchestras, the London Philharmonic joined forces with the Royal Philharmonic to present a programme of Beethoven and Bartók, under the baton of Sir Georg Solti.

The two orchestras had never before shared a programme in the Royal Festival Hall and they had certainly never before appeared on stage together. This is what we were promised as an encore, after each had given its own performance: Beethoven's Symphony No 7 by the LPO, Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra by the RPO.

Since the stage was already full for each individual item, it was not clear how the orchestras were to be combined for Wagner's *Mastersingers* Overture. But no one had said that it was to be the full complement of each orchestra, and in the event the joint band was of the usual (Wagnerian) size in most departments.

The overture was propelled in celebratory spirit, with urgent tempos and thrusting rhythms. There was, it is true, a preponderance of horn tone in an extended passage where they have subsidiary material. But this was due less to an excess of players than to Solti's penchant for highlighting unimportant detail.

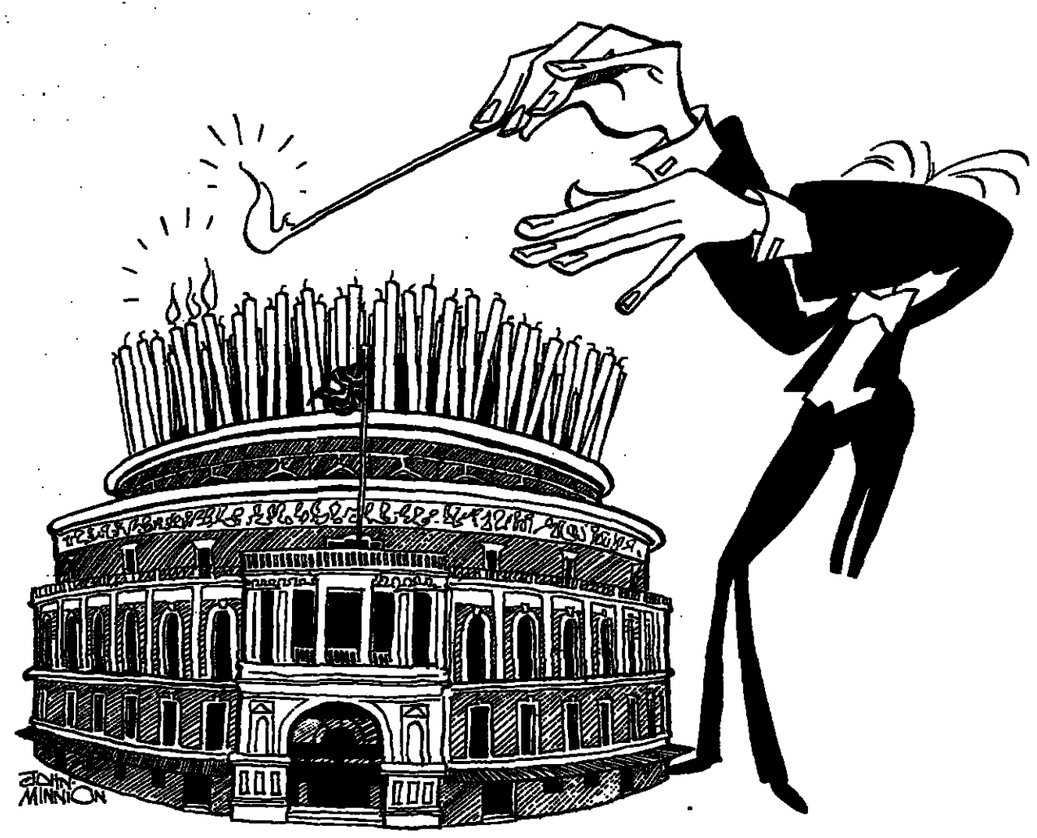
There were vigour and high spirits aplenty in the Beethoven, too. After an Allegretto of exceptional muscularity, the Scherzo and its Trios were rattled off. The last movement, like the first, had an incisive edge, but no great underlying purpose.

The RPO played well for Solti, nevertheless, as did the LPO in the Bartók. Here at last there was an awareness of something significant beneath the surface. The Elegia picked up the ruminative mood of the work's opening and developed it into an eruption of passion, the sharp rhythms of Paul Beniston's trumpet figures cutting brilliantly through the texture. The humorous episode of the "Interrupted Intermezzo" was not exaggerated, the trombone raspberries being executed crisply, so that more emphasis was laid, rightly, on the peals of woodwind laughter.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Proms from A to Z

Richard Morrison puts the delights of this year's 'Centenary' BBC Proms into alphabetical order



A is for Arena. Sweaty, crowded and seatless — but the Albert Hall arena is the place to be from July 21 to September 16. And a season ticket for all 70 concerts is, at £120 (£70 upstairs), still the best musical bargain around.

B is for BBC, proprietor of the Henry Wood Promenade Concerts since 1927. A takeover by BSkyB is not thought to be imminent. Radio 3 will broadcast all concerts live; BBC TV will show ten.

C is for Centenary, which the Proms are celebrating this year. A feeling of *déjà vu* may be attributed to the fact that last year was marketed as the Proms' 100th season. A nice distinction! The emphasis then was on retrospection; this year it is on looking forward. Nevertheless, one concert (Aug 10), on the 100th anniversary day, will partially recreate not only the authentic programme but the authentic playing style, using the New Queen's Hall Orchestra.

D is for Drummond, John. A volatile mixture of temperament and talent, he has run the Proms with flair and energy for ten years. This is his last season. Despite his age (60), some see the general director's office at the Royal Opera House as his next natural habitat. Either way, he is unlikely to end up managing Nigel Kennedy.

E is for E flat: the first note of the First Night (July 21). And what a note: a blast of organ, it heralds Mahler's Eighth Symphony, which for once is likely to come close to justifying its nickname, "Symphony of a Thousand". Andrew Davis conducts no fewer than six massed choirs.

F is for first performances, of which these Centenary Proms have many. "A vote of confidence in the continuing attraction of music in our time," says Drummond. They range from international superstars (Carter, Berio, Birtwistle, Knussen) to deserving locals (Judith Bingham, Sally Beamish, Benedict Mason, Judith Weir, John Casken, etc). Most eagerly awaited will be the British premiere of Henze's Eighth Symphony, conducted by Sir Simon Rattle (Aug 4).

G is for Glyndebourne, which graces the Proms every year with a potted staging from its current repertoire. Janáček's *The Makropoulos Case* is this season's choice (Aug 28), with Anja Silja as the 337-year-old protagonist, one of opera's more mature heroines.

H is for "Heave-ho", which is what Promenaders traditionally shout when the lid of the piano is raised before concertos. At no other classical concerts do audiences supply repartee between items.

I is for *Inextinguishable*, a symphony by the Danish composer Nielsen which British musicians uncharitably know as "Indistinguishable". Actually, it's a fine work, and will surely be delivered with patriotic fervour by the Danish Radio Symphony Orchestra (Aug 21).

J is for Jazz, now an established late-night tradition at the Proms. This year (Aug 19) it is the turn of the Julian Joseph All-Stars Big Band to lift the roof off the Albert Hall.

K is for Kenyon, Nicholas. Controller of BBC Radio 3, he succeeds Drummond as Proms overlord next year. A former *Times* critic, and thus by definition a person of exquisite taste, he is nevertheless a controversial figure as he tries to adapt Radio 3 and the BBC's house orchestras to the modern musical world. Expect one or two "over my dead body" campaigns if he tampers with Proms tradition.

L is for Last Night, an orgy of mock-jingoism (at least, I *think* it's mock) which this year (Sept 16) is neatly punctured by the world premiere of a piece called *Panic* by that avant-garde master, Sir Harrison Birtwistle. Let's see what the global TV audience makes of that.

M is for Mahler. The Proms offer all ten of the anguished maestro's symphonies, plus the big song-cycles. Rather perversely, though, the Gustav Mahler Youth Orchestra will play Bruckner (Aug 15).

N is for Ninth. Not for the first time, Beethoven's *Choral Symphony* is ousted from its traditional place on the penultimate night to make way for, you guessed, a Mahler symphony. The *Choral Symphony* does surface on Sept 8 conducted by Tadaaki Otaka.

O is for Owen, Wilfred, whose poetry features so movingly in Britten's *War Requiem*. Jane Glover conducts the 1962 work on Sept 3, the day war broke out in 1939.

P is for Purcell. There's no escaping the tercentenary boy. At the Proms you can here his anthems and sublime Queen Mary Funeral Music (July 30), his semi-opera *King Arthur* (Aug 13), and a staging of *Dido and Aeneas* (Sept 6) that promises all sorts of choreographic flounces.

Q is for Queue. For popular programmes the Proms queue snakes through South Ken for hundreds of yards. It is, in fact, one of Britain's *greatest* queues, and many a torrid sexual relationship owes its origin to a shared Kit-Kat in Prince Consort Road. Or so I'm told.

R is for Reich. Minimalism may be on the wane, but Steve Reich goes on and on. The world premiere of his *Proverbs* (Sept 7), along with his busy and bizarre *City Life*, should be a season highlight.

S is for Slow Music. And it doesn't come more hearse-paced than in Arvo Pärt's *St John Passion* (Jul 24). After this, *Parsifal* may seem like a comic-strip.

T is for Toccata and Fugue in D minor. Bach's Gothic-horror epic, in Stokowski's gargantuan orchestral arrangement, is played by the very orchestra that Stokowski made great: the Philadelphia. Under Wolfgang Sawallisch, this venerable ensemble plays two Proms (Aug 24, 25).

U is for Unusually Long and Wacky Title. There is usually one in every batch of Proms premieres, and this year it belongs to James Wood's *Two men meet, each presuming the other to be from a distant planet* (Sept 11).

V is for Variation. As a variation on simply conducting Elgar's *Enigma Variations*, Leonard Slatkin is going to talk about them first (July 24). Perhaps he knows the answer to the enigma.

W must be for *Waltzing Matilda*, which is unlikely to be the encore at the Sydney Symphony Orchestra's Proms (Aug 30, 31), but you never know.

X is for Xenakis. There is only 15 minutes' worth of the man's impenetrable music in this year's Proms, and that is wittily sandwiched between a medieval Mass and a Mozambique *timbila* recital. So let us move swiftly on to . . .

Y is for top Youth orchestras. The European Union Youth Orchestra plays on Aug 5; our National Youth Orchestra responds the following night; and the Junge Deutsche Philharmonie performs on Sept 12. And finally . . .

Z is for Zimmermann, of which there are two in the 1995 Proms. The late Bernd Alois Zimmermann composed epic collages. His *Photoptosis* is played on Sept 12. The next evening, Frank Peter Zimmermann tackles the Brahms Violin Concerto.

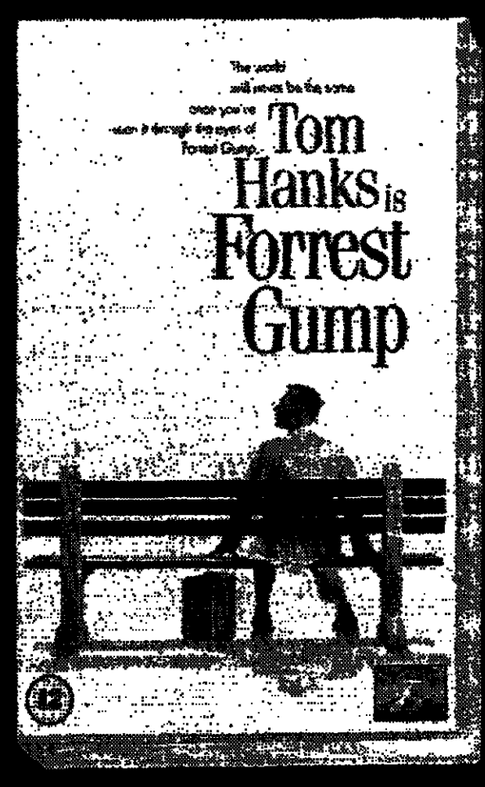
● The BBC Proms Guide *is on sale from next Tuesday, price £3.50. Postal booking opens on May 11*

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Norman Stone, recently back from the Moscow archives, on an entertaining but unsound account of Hitler's death

Is anyone kidding us about the last days of Adolf Hitler?



Adolf Hitler, pictured in Munich on the "Day of German Art" in Munich, July 1939: one of many vivid colour stills from a rare amateur film of this Nazi pageant first shown on Channel 4 in 1993, now reproduced in *Weekend in Munich: Art, Propaganda and Terror in the Third Reich* by Robert Wistrich (Pavilion, £19.99

Some years ago the surgeon Hugh Thomas (not to be confused with the historian of the same name) caused a little scandal with an entertaining book, saying that Rudolf Hess was an invention. There had certainly been a real Hess who had been Hitler's deputy. That Hess had had his world-historical moment when he flew to make peace (along the lines more recently advocated by Alan Clark) before Germany attacked the Soviet Union. This was bizarre enough — as if Lord Halifax had crash-landed in Franconia on a similar mission before Pearl Harbor. Did he do this with Hitler's authorisation?

Thomas did not say, but, whatever the case, he claimed that *the* Hess had disappeared. A double was substituted by the British, took part in the Nuremberg trials, and was then sentenced to life in Spandau prison. Life was life, and very, very long. For over 40 years, for 20 of them the last remaining prisoner, Hess was guarded by troops of the four Allies. Then he died, aged 93, in 1987 — probably strangling himself.

According to Thomas, the aircraft that landed in Scotland had not been the aircraft that took off from Augsburg. The Spandau Hess was examined by Thomas, and showed no trace of a bad wound known to have been incurred in 1916. The British Government gave Thomas some plausibility because it refused to release the sensitive documents: some of them are still under lock and key, and the Russians have muttered darkly about an Anglo-German conspiracy ever since. There certainly were (and are) mysteries connected with the British treatment of Hess, whether in 1941 or later. Why was this quarter-crazed old man, not responsible for genocide, not just quietly released as, after all, Schacht, Krupp, Neurath and Papen were, having been much more effective supporters of Hitler than ever Hess was?

Thomas established his *prima facie* case with mainly forensic evidence. There was, however, one thing devastatingly wrong with it all. The Hess family had no doubts about the Spandau prisoner. The other Nazi leaders imprisoned in Spandau also knew their Hess of old. Pedantic housewifery in bizarre circumstances was characteristic of Hess; Albert Speer recounts how Hess, early on in the imprisonment, took offence at Speer's leaving the prison-broom, for the next user, at 60 degrees to the wall rather than 45; he then "cut" Speer in the exercise-yard for the next 15 years. The Nuremberg defendants had all known Hess for decades, and never expressed any doubts that the Hess of 1945 was the same as the Hess of 1933. Nor did any of the Spandau prisoners, decades later. This greatly damages Thomas's case, however complicated his forensic evidence.

Was there a truly sinister explanation for the British silence? Our documents may reveal that Hess had some connection with the Duke of Windsor, who may, in turn, have compromised himself. And it is likely that the British used the whole affair to maximal effect in Moscow: they could threaten an Anglo-German alliance against Moscow unless Stalin abandoned his own pact with Hitler.

The idea that there was a Hess double, planted for sinister purposes by the British, smells to me of KGB gossip, and perhaps even of a planned disinformation campaign. Thomas himself had seen Hess in Spandau; perhaps, though he never says so, his theory of a Hess double came from some Soviet medic in the Spandau mess.

Now Thomas has tried it again, again quite entertainingly, and again with some sort of shadowy Soviet involvement. He has tried to tell the story of the Berlin bunker, the famous *Last Days of Hitler*, on which Hugh Trevor-Roper wrote a classic and multi-translated account in 1947. Thomas does not like Trevor-Roper. He relies on Russian documents to say why. Trevor-Roper said that Hitler killed himself by shooting, and that Eva Braun, his mistress, had taken poison. Thomas says, no: Hitler was murdered, and Eva Braun had a dummy substituted, which was then killed, and Eva Braun's dentures placed under the tongue to mislead the Russians who came to investigate the circumstances.

Not only that. Hess's successor as Hitler's deputy was Martin Bormann, who was much more efficient and much more evil than Hess. He had broken out of the bunker. Trevor-Roper thought that he had been killed in Berlin, and later witnesses agreed.

Thomas says no: he escaped, eventually to Paraguay. When, in 1972, a supposed Bormann skeleton was dug up during excavations in Berlin, and identified by its teeth, that, too, was a substitution. All of this is argued with reference to forensic science, and some of it to unidentified "Russian archives" which someone unnamed has procured and translated (or mistranslated: the German names are retransliterated English-fashion, so that a bullet hole the size of *tri marka*, meaning a three-mark coin, is rendered as "three stamps" — a mistake that allows Thomas to indulge his theory further).



The last picture of Hitler alive, in the ruins of his chancellery

Thomas writes testily and with energy, and the book, as with its precedessor on Hess, is not entirely valueless. It catalogues the searches and newspaper stories that went on for decades, over Latin America, about a supposed surviving Bormann (there were others, too). Sums of money were extracted from excited editors; a supposed CIA man, the wonderfully-named "Ladislaus Farago" (the name means "carver" in Hungarian) had fun with his "sightings" but he was far from being alone. I have sometimes wondered whether Mossad did not deliberately foment such stories as a way of maintaining consciousness of the Holocaust, without having the embarrassment of another Eichmann trial.

On the forensic side, Thomas can deploy an argument — that blood-spots noted in the bunker must have come from this rather than that. In general, he relies upon a Russian document, Lev Bezymenski's book on Hitler's death, an English translation of which appeared a quarter-century ago. Bezymenski claimed that Hitler had poisoned himself, after murdering Eva Braun; he did not say where the bodies had gone. Thomas contests most of this, pursues his forensic arguments, quotes his Russian documents without source or verification, and comes up with his own story.

It is nonsense. Absolutely every single witness of Hitler's last days agreed that he had committed suicide. He had said he would, a week before, when the Russians started bombarding Berlin. To make sure that he died, he both shot himself and crunched a poison capsule. (Thomas bizarrely refers to the poison, in German, as *Zyankali*, instead of "potassium cyanide". I gather that it had an admixture of prussic acid, or *Blausäure*). Every single witness swore to the double suicides, and five of them (at least) are still alive.

DOPPELGÄNGERS
The Truth about the Bodies in the Berlin Bunker
By Hugh Thomas
Fourth Estate, £17.99

In their statements, they differed over important details — where they had been, and when, and with whom, and to do what. Of course they differed: who, in the mad last days of Hitler's bunker, with the ventilation breaking down inside and a hail of bullets and shells outside, and with the contents of the wine-cellars of the *Reichskanzlei* being guzzled down, could remember every detail exactly?

Trevor-Roper knew how to deal with this — patience, cups of tea — and his version (compared with the Russians', most of which I have seen in Moscow) stands up quite well. The Russians used other methods — starvation, cold, beatings-up — and expected their witnesses to recall small details a year after the event. It helped that the Bunker story did sound incredible — the Hitler entourage falling apart in much the same way as a crowd of "Krauts" at the end of some *Guns of Navarone* or *Where Eagles Dare*.

Not surprisingly, the Russians were bewildered, although Stalin's court were also no slouches when it came to surreal behaviour. The NKVD then imagined that there had been a plot, using a double, to smuggle Hitler out, and that the witnesses were all colluding in lies. Thomas does know some of this story, but not what to make of it; he even ends up with a version of it.

He has missed Bezymenski's own *mea culpa* in *Der Spiegel* in 1992, in which he apologised for having misled the West. "History is a vengeful lady," he confessed. "She always catches up with you." Bezymenski agreed that he had known far more of the story than, in his book, "they" had let him say. Therefore, almost up to the 50th anniversary of his death, we still did not really know quite what had happened to Hitler's body, and could still be misled by strange tales à la Thomas and Farago, which, in turn, led some Russians who knew their West to think that there was money in telling far-fetched stories.

And that is the truly interesting part in it all. The details of Hitler's last days are now known, exhaustively — a recent issue of *Spiegel* has added some more — and of course they make a tale worth the telling. We know quite well how Hitler committed suicide. What we do not know, though I have been working on this in the archives of the NKVD, is *why* the Russians made such an extraordinary mystery.

It was only in Bezymenski's *Spiegel* interview, in 1992, that we even learnt what they had done with the boxes of remains that they had taken for autopsy. Hugh Trevor-Roper had said, grandly, that the destroyer of mankind had ended, as he would have wished, Alaric-the-Goth-fashion, with his remains scattered namelessly at the bottom of the River Businto in southern Italy. No: it was in a parking lot in Magdeburg, and they were destroyed in 1970 on KGB orders.

We now know why. The Russians, it seems, were worried that the then West German Chancellor Willy Brandt's ecstatic welcome by the East German crowds at Erfurt that year might lead, some day not far off, to German reunification and thence to a martyr's shrine for Adolf Hitler. Conor Cruise O'Brien did indeed predict this in *The Times* when the Wall came down 20 years later. But in fact there has been no serious attempt in the new, unified Germany to rehabilitate the Third Reich, much less to inaugurate a Fourth.

A brief history of the wickedest lie of all

Julia Neuberger

DENYING THE HOLOCAUST
The Growing Assault on Truth and Memory
By Deborah Lipstadt
Penguin, £8.99 paperback original

Deborah Lipstadt caused her friends some consternation when she decided to devote her academic research to the denial of the Holocaust. She was seen as giving the anti-Semites too much credibility; they were in no way worthy of academic study, far less of a book of this substance to attack them.

Few of those who held that opinion in the United States would still do so. More people in Britain might, precisely because we have not seen the Holocaust deniers grow as much in influence. The gradual move into academic respectability on campus after campus in America has no real parallel. Of everything Lipstadt chronicles in this scholarly but readable volume, it is the campus story that is the most compelling.

In 1991, a Californian called Bradley Smith attempted to place an advertisement denying the Holocaust in college newspapers across the United States, gaining considerable publicity out of the fact that many colleges rejected him. On some campuses, the very fact of the debate provoked angry demonstrations against Holocaust denial, and encouraged students to take up options for studying the Holocaust.

Yet Smith was clever in his use of argument, as the political correctness debate swept America. "The politically correct line on the Holocaust story is, simply, it happened. You can't debate it." Universities, susceptible to the political correctness gibe, began to accept the ad. But the University of Michigan went further.

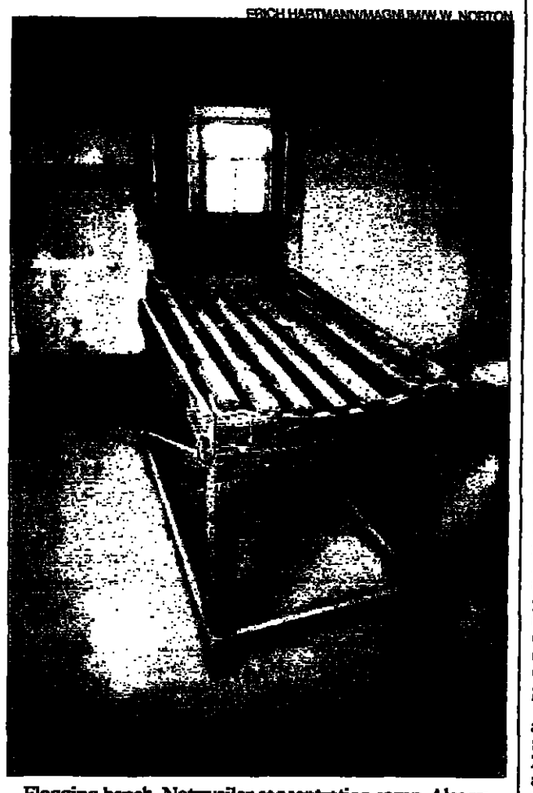
The advertisement had probably slipped through the college newspaper net unread. But, once it had appeared, while the business staff published a six-column apology, the editorial board tried to turn a mistake into an issue of principle. The university president, James Duderstadt, asserted that the newspaper had a long tradition of editorial freedom that had to be protected even when "we disagree either with particular opinions, decisions or actions". He had raised Holocaust denial to a matter of opinion, rather than fact, and the editorial board began to draw on the First Amendment, guaranteeing free speech.

Some universities argued — Harvard, Chicago and Tennessee among them — that all this had nothing to do with the First Amendment. However, they did not point out, although they could have, that most of the newspapers have policies which prevent them running racist, sexist and religiously offensive advertisements. But the damage was done. Some universities were publishing this stuff as legitimate, if outlandish, opinion. It appeared that students could not tell the difference between opinion and fact. The lesson of deconstructionism in academic life, half understood by so many, was that all opinions were valid. Nothing was more important than anything else. Facts were really simply received opinions.

So the results of the Roper Poll in April 1993, trying to determine the extent of Americans' knowledge of the Holocaust, should not be wholly surprising. The question, clumsily phrased (which may partly explain the result), was: "Do you think it is possible or impossible that the Holocaust did not happen?" Twenty-two per cent of American adults and 20 per cent of American high school students answered, "Yes, it was possible." A similar question posed in Britain and France evoked only 7 per cent of yeses. Another poll, by Gallup, found 83 per cent of Americans saying it had happened, 13 per cent that it had probably happened, and only 4 per cent doubting. So the extent of the success of the Holocaust deniers in reaching the mainstream in their views is limited. But they were making some headway in claiming it was a matter of opinion.

Yet those who give any kind of credence to Holocaust denial would not try to deny the Second World War, or even the battle of Agincourt. The anti-Semitic motives are clear. What is less clear is the muddled motives of those who give them house-room in magazines and colleges. It is that muddle and disregard for the truth which Lipstadt exposes so beautifully. While German judges in Baden-Württemberg were put on sick leave for giving a lenient sentence to a Holocaust denier (the Günther Deckert case in 1994), it is bizarre that Holocaust denial should be a free speech issue in the United States. But, precisely because it is, it is very dangerous.

The answer lies in better education about the Holocaust. Perhaps most importantly, whilst they are still alive, those who witnessed and experienced it all should be encouraged to recount their memories in spoken or written form, so that those who are foolish enough to listen to the deniers can hear the testimony of survivors, and realise that there cannot be any doubt. The Holocaust is fact, painful fact though it may be.



ERICH HARTMANN/MAGNUM/W.W. NORTON

Flogging bench, Natzweiler concentration camp, Alsace: one of many moving photographs of relics of the Holocaust by Erich Hartmann, from *In the Camps* (Norton, £25)

The worst part of valour

Adam Le Bor

THE PAST WITHIN ME
Memoirs of a Warsaw Ghetto Fighter
By Simha Rotem
Yale University Press, £L

IT SEEMS incredible that anyone survived the Warsaw Ghetto uprising of April 1943, when handfuls of lightly armed Jews held off the Nazi tanks, machine-guns and artillery for weeks. It seems doubly amazing that someone could have survived having fought in the revolt as a soldier in ZOB (the valiant, doomed Jewish militia), escaped, posed as a Gentile with a false Aryan identity and then returned for the second ill-fated uprising against the Germans in 1944 to fight again.

Simha Rotem did all of these. His book, translated from the Hebrew and edited by Barbara Harshav, is a personal memoir, a straightforward narrative which makes no claims to philosophical analysis, but is all the more powerful for its simplicity. He records the exhilaration of exploding an underground mine at the ghetto gate as the Germans marched in on April 20, 1943, the first day of Passover. For once, it was German corpses which were piled high.

There was, of course, black and white: the Nazi war machine massed against the ZOB fighters, in their teens and early 20s. But there were many shades of grey as well, for not all the ghetto's inhabitants supported the uprising. Jewish collaborators with the Gestapo were executed. A Jewish businessman's daughter was kidnapped to force him to fund the militia. Jewish policemen who accorded with Eichmann's plan to make Eastern Europe's Jews help organise their own destruction were held at gunpoint while ZOB liberated their prisoners before the Gestapo got them.

Rotem is one of the last survivors of one of the bravest battles in the Second World War. His memoirs are a moving record of the greatest heroism and a chronicle of humanity's darkest hour.

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Surveying a score of VE-Day books, **Alistair Horne** is struck by the fortitude with which civilians endured the war

Victory at all costs, and how we lived through it

Last year's crop of books landing on the market around D-Day was predominantly military in tone. This year, to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the ending of the war in Europe, appropriately the most outstanding have an emphasis on how civil populations coped.

Like almost everything he writes, Philip Ziegler's **London at War: 1939-45** *(Sinclair-Stevenson, £20)* shines with a mixture of dry wit and compassion, and is sparely yet agreeably written. As well as the official archives and such unbeatable stand-bys as the late Constantine FitzGibbon's *The Blitz*, Ziegler makes liberal use of unpublished letters and diaries of "ordinary people", notably those of George and Helena Britton, a retired couple living in Walthamstow who wrote weekly letters to their daughter in California.

Prewar governments got it horribly wrong when estimating the effects of a German bombing of London. Perhaps they had read too much H.G. Wells. Baldwin's gloomy pronouncement in 1931, "the bomber will always get through", set the RAF off on its questionable, and hazardous, course of all-for-strategic bombing — which nearly cost us the Battle of Britain. The Air Staff estimated chillingly that "within 24 hours 58,000 Londoners would have been killed". There would not be enough timber for coffins; 3-4 million people would suffer from hysteria; gas would certainly be used (it never was). One good product of all this terror talk was the invention of the amazingly simple Anderson shelter; that and the (tardy) use of Tube stations saved thousands of lives.

When the dreaded day came, September 3, 1939, it began in London with an air-raid siren — caused, Ziegler tells us, by an off-course French ally. The evacuees returned by the thousand. For a year the "Phoney War" continued; the chief enemy was boredom, and the hazards of the blackout. But there was also a certain beauty about the trafficless and darkened city; "a fresh tang in the air, which was no longer laden with petrol fumes, and for the first time we knew how enchanting the city looked by moonlight".

Not for long. On August 24, 1940, at the height of the Battle of Britain, a first German bomb hit London — probably by mistake. The RAF retaliated with a pinprick raid on Berlin, and — in the remorseless way war has of escalating — Hitler had his excuse and a circle of revenge began. By daylight on September 7, he switched his bombers from attacking Fighter Command bases — one of his cardinal errors — to an indiscriminate blitz on civilian London.

Watching the docks and the flimsy houses of the East End blaze, Ted Harrison in Hackney thought: "Blimey, we've lost the war!" In those first terrible days of the Blitz, prewar fears looked as if they might be realised. "Our brave warden, who for months had been swaggering in his uniform," wrote Mr Kyle of West Ham, "was cringing against the wall under concrete steps, sobbing." (In West Ham, the Labour council's administration broke down; though it was one of few to do so.) In one Stepney shelter, women succumbed to hysteria during the first raids — but returned calm and collected four nights later.

Soon even the camels in the zoo didn't get up when bombs fell nearby. The first to endow London with its special heroism, American correspondents such as Ed Murrow and Quentin Reynolds, got the message; but Churchill and the RAF "Bomber Barons" never did. Assuming that German civilians would somehow prove more brittle, they went on bombing the Reich till there was nothing left to hit — at a cost of nearly 56,000 dead out of the RAF total of 72,794.

During the first Blitz, Ziegler notes admiringly, the nerve of Londoners "never broke"; indeed, the civil defenders grew steadily tougher, more efficient, more resilient. They "passed with honour". In the spring of 1941, there were two last crushing blows, worse than anything before. Still morale was undented; instead there was "only a passionately expressed hope there would be instant retaliation". After the terrible punishment inflicted by the Luftwaffe on London, the average Briton was unlikely to be as concerned about the effects of area-bombing Germany as we are today. London 1940-41 led directly to Dresden 1945.

With his hands full in Russia for the next two and a half years, Hitler left London alone. Then, in the winter of 1943-44 the Luftwaffe returned for the vicious "little Blitz". Morale did not crack, but "the mood became more sombre". For the first time, looting became serious. As Churchill's secretary, Jock Colville, recorded, "we are war-winter-world-weary". The biggest dip in morale, as Ziegler correctly notes, came with the promiscuous onslaught of the V1 bombs in June and July of 1944 — despite the exhilarating news from Normandy. Finally, there were the V2s, almost more terrifying with their complete lack of warning. Between them, Hitler's "revenge weapons" accounted for 9,000 dead, with 30,000 London houses destroyed and 1.25 million damaged.

The last V2 landed in March 1945, only weeks before Hitler's final defeat. For London the cost was over half the nation's serious or fatal injuries suffered from bombing: 80,000; 30 per cent of the city was virtually destroyed, incuding 15 Wren churches. Germany paid with nearly 600,000 civilian deaths.

During the worst of the *London Blitz, there was a*



gaiety (says Ziegler quoting Alan Ross) "that never seems to have been repeated". Temporarily, the churches filled; daytime concerts by Myra Hess in the National Gallery sold out. Full of idealism and hope, people queued to buy the Beveridge report, "as if it was unrationed manna from some heaven". There were blueprints for a new London to arise from the ashes.

As always, Ziegler writes with a compelling charm that almost persuades one that he actually likes it. The only sour passage is when he reflects disillusion at the brave schemes for rebuilding London. "Fifty years have passed, and things have gone wrong." *Si monumentum requiris;* and the monument is to socialist so-called planning. Mrs Britton "was betrayed, and London with her".

If Ziegler's heroes are the ordinary people of London, and (justly) Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother — who fiercely declined to move out — then David Reynolds's hero in **Rich Relations: The American Occupation of Britain, 1942-45** *(HarperCollins, £25)* is Eisenhower. Though he may not have been history's greatest strategist, had Ike not been such an Anglophile, the American "occupation" of Britain from 1942-45 might have been a sullen affair, with ill consequences for morale.

Reynolds has committed himself to the notion that the "Special Relationship" was all a sentimental myth, or purely a community of transient interests. All through his book he struggles to maintain the theme, but finally recognises its existence on the personal level — and its transcendent significance in winning the war. Like the good academic he is, he has read every book — and (unlike Ziegler) left little out. Irritatingly, he picks up every old chestnut, from the two GIs and Lady Godiva to the pregnant lady in the Pentagon, taking as his theme the ancient British plaint about the Americans being "overpaid and oversexed".

Hoary as it may be, however, this last does provide a good starting point for examining the principal cause of strife between wartime Limeys and Yanks: the GIs were just too rich. (In contrast were the only marginally less affluent Canadians in Britain, part of whose pay their wise Government retained at home.) The result is an outstanding study of a most important aspect of the war, never before examined in such depth.

For most GIs, "the Depression", as Reynolds points out, "had been *the* formative experience"; they had not joined *the army voluntarily — it was* axiomatic that they had to be properly paid, and fed. On arriving in a Britain that had been at war, largely alone, for the previous three years, one GI from Kansas found the natives "the most economically backward people I have ever encountered. Labour-saving devices and short-cut business methods are heartily resisted ... Too much tea drinking ..."

To the British, fatigued with too much war and too little food, the Yanks came as a breath of fresh air. Sometimes too fresh. They liked their guests' friendliness, but some, like Harold Nicolson (who never really understood Americans) grumbled about "their eternal superficiality". For British girls in the munitions plants, knowing nothing of America but what Hollywood portrayed, they represented unheard-of glamour; money gave sex-appeal an extra dimension — so did the snazzy uniform of even the lowliest Pfc, compared with the ill-fitting British battle-dress. Under Ike's urging, many GIs made close friends with a British family; a few didn't want to know — they were an army of occupation and the sooner it was Over-Over-There, the better.

The worst enemy, as Ziegler found and Reynolds repeatedly stresses, was boredom. It took the edge off military preparedness. Men who arrived half-trained had little opportunity to improve. One US division, the 29th, spent 20 months waiting in England. Its baptism of fire on Omaha Beach on D-Day was a devastating experience. The lack of training areas, compared with the vast open spaces of the US, also caused tank crews to suffer when they faced the Normandy *bocages*.

Nobody was better aware than Ike — except perhaps Monty — of the dangers of boredom among troops waiting "for combat endlessly postponed". Elaborate welfare and entertainment schemes were set up. Under the admirable Lady Reading, thousands of WVS members pitched in to help. The American Red Cross, however, comes in for stern criticism for blocking contacts between British servicemen and GIs.

The problems posed by the sheer weight of numbers were immense; on the eve of D-Day, there were more than 1.5 million Americans in Britain. Two of the best chapters of *Rich Relations* deal with the US air forces in Britain and the black servicemen. In 1939, the British black community numbered some 8,000; thus there was no racial tension, and many were shocked by importation of harsh US "Jim Crow Laws", imposing segregation. Often there would be fights in pubs over British *women. One of Ike's staff* reports before D-Day gave warning: "If the invasion doesn't occur soon, trouble *will.*"

The one arm of the American forces in constant combat since 1942 was General Spaatz's Eighth US Air Force, whose B17 Flying Fortresses carried the war to Germany by daylight. It was a stressfully bizarre life (and often a tragically short one): "At 9 o'clock in the morning we could be bombing Berlin, and at midnight at a fancy dance in London." Their losses were appalling; in one week in July 1943, General Eaker's strength was reduced from 330 aircraft and crews to fewer than 200.

It was perhaps this which gave the US airmen flying out of East Anglia an enhanced "Special Relationship" with the locals. Singularly appropriate today, 50 years later, too, is the joint Anglo-American scheme to commemorate their sacrifice by the installation of a special US Air Force Museum at Duxford in Cambridgeshire, with imaginative architecture by Norman Foster.

When the war ended, says Reynolds, it left Britain open to Americanisation, and the GIs knowing more about America as well as Britain. Many a GI took home a bride (despite the obstacles imposed by US bureaucracy). Those who did not return are not forgotten; at Madingley Cemetery outside Cambridge, Reynolds five decades later found fresh flowers on the grave of an American flyer killed in February 1944, with a note:

All my love
As Always,
And thank you, Michael
Mary.

An occupation of British territory of a very different kind was the Germans' five-year sojourn in the Channel Islands. Yet, compared with conditions just a few miles across the waters in Normandy, it was not harsh — in fact, almost gentlemanly. Asa Briggs casts the expert eye of the historian over it in a well-illustrated and admirable account which, if anything, is almost too short. He introduces **The Channel Islands, Occupation and Liberation, 1940-1945** *(Batsford, £7.99)* with the provocative thought: what would have happened in Britain had the Germans invaded? Too small for there to be any mountain hideouts for a Resistance, the islands also saw none of the vicious hostage-taking as in Occupied Europe. There was, inevitably, some *collaboration horizontale* — though nothing on the scale of the Arlettys of Paris (claiming "*mon cul est international, mais mon coeur est toujours français*"). Briggs is discreet, but a little jingle went the roumds:

F stands for Feathers which
mingled with tar
Will decorate Jerrybags
after the war.

Nevertheless, none of the savage *épurations* experienced in post-Liberation France took place in the Channel Islands. As a heroine, noble and dignified, emerges the feudal Dame of Sark, who took personally the surrender of the last 275 Germans on the island: "I have been left for nearly five years," she loftily told the British relief force. "I can stand a few more days."

A scrappier and less satisfactory picture-book, given the stature of its subject, is **What did you do in the War, Auntie? The BBC at War, 1939-45** by Tom Hickman *(BBC, £15.99)*. The BBC's function in war deserves a monument — if for no other purpose than for its present grandees to use as a touchstone from time to time. Their tools were primitive; at the front the "Warcos" travelled in highly targetable recording trucks called "Belindas"; for recording they used a spring-wound gramophone called a "Mighty Midget" — which at 42lb was neither (the Germans had used tape recorders for several years; Auntie was still "evaluating" them). And the censor was often heavy-handed.

Comedy programmes like *ITMA*, made on a shoe-string and uniting the country in mirth, must have been worth divisions of troops in terms of wartime morale (Tommy Handley should have been made a duke, or a field-marshal). Their quality points up the tawdriness of today's costly sit-coms. Similarly with the Warcos and commentators; modest, responsible, restrained and usually acting as their own censors, they were taken fully into the confidence of commanders such as Monty; men like Frank Gillard, Richard Dimbleby, Chester Wilmot and Alvar Liddell seem like a race of titans compared with today's sniping instant experts.

Anyone who wants to savour the exact mood across the world of that magical day of May 8, 1945, should read **The Day the War Ended** by Martin Gilbert *(HarperCollins, £20)*, biographer of Churchill and now court scribe to John Major. Somehow the amazingly prolific Gilbert (his "books by ..." now run off the page) has managed to find time to compile an extraordinarily readable account of what everybody, literally *everybody*, was doing and thinking on VE-Day. It will be an essential companion for historians.

Lighter in weight, but drawing its material from first-hand interviews and diaries, is Russell Miller's **Ten Days in May: The People's Story of VE Day** *(Michael Joseph,*



£15.99). I found particularly poignant a photograph of a wounded GI on crutches, watching the tickertape rain down in New York — and no doubt wondering what the future held for him.

Another predominantly picture book, with a first-class text, is the War Museum's **Victory in Europe: The North West European Campaign, 1944-45**, by ex-Major-General Julian Thompson *(Sidgwick & Jackson, £25)*, who commanded 3rd Commando Brigade in the Falklands. With the eye of the professional, Thompson succeeds in matching personal accounts of the last year of the war to a judicious historical commentary.

Covering much the same ground in greater detail is **The Conquest of the Reich: D-Day to VE-Day — A Soldier's History**, by Robin Neillands *(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £20)*; while Colin John Bruce's **War on the Ground** *(Constable, £15.95)* gives an anecdotal history of the British Army in the Second World War, considering it to have been an underprivileged arm.

A "must" for the military buff is Jane's weighty **All the World's Aircraft, 1945: Collector's Edition** *(HarperCollins, £29.99)*. With exhaustive detail of more than 800 aircraft, it needs no description. But a book to which I shall constantly refer is the equally weighty **Oxford Companion to the Second World War** *(OUP, £30)*. It is edited by M.R.D. Foot, official chronicler of SOE, and a most meticulous historian.

Inevitably, with a work of this magnitude, there are errors and omissions. I was surprised to find no entry for Admiral Sir Max Horton, the man who contributed so much to defeating the U-boats in the Battle of the Atlantic; nor for Colonel Stauffenberg, who led the abortive bomb plot against Hitler in July 1944. To one trained in tanks, the statistics on anti-tank guns also seem improbable, with the wretched British two-pounder credited with nearly four times the range of the lethal German 88-mm. These are, however, but nit-pickings which can be dealt with in future editions.

On Michael Foot's terrain as official chronicler of SOE, the American Rita Kramer has written **Flames in the Field: The Story of Four SOE Agents in Occupied France** *(Michael Joseph, £18.99)*, a harrowing account of four women agents dropped in France in 1943: Andrée Borrel, Vera Leigh, Diana Rowden and Sonya Olschanezsky. All were rounded up and murdered, in horrible circumstances, at Natzweiler in Alsace — the only concentration camp on French soil (see picture on facing page).

It was an appalling disaster for SOE, and Foot is quoted as ascribing it to "a combination of bad security in the field, penetration by double agents, and 'undue gullibility' back in London". Rita Kramer, however, is less ready to accept this explanation. Citing the need to protect the various Allied deception plans that preceded D-Day, she hints broadly at deliberate betrayal of the women agents. A riposte from Foot is awaited.

Also on the subject of Nazi atrocities comes a grim book by Yehuda Bauer, explicitly entitled **Jews for Sale? Nazi-Jewish Negotiations, 1933-45** *(Yale, £17.95)*. Bauer relates details, reminiscent of Schindler on a vast scale, of the attempts to purchase from Himmler an exodus for all the European Jews. He asks: should the Allies have been prepared to exchange their lives for money? Or would such transactions have constituted collaboration with the enemy? Here Martin Gilbert may have a view.

In **The Hitler Options** *(Greenhill, £17.95)*, Kenneth Macksey as editor compiles ten "alternative decisions" whereby Hitler might have won the war. They range from a successful invasion of Britain in 1940 (but if this had succeeded, would there have been any need for the other nine "options"?), to the construction of a Nazi atom bomb. All within the realms of the possible, but also great stuff from which a Robert Harris could weave a new spine-chilling novel. More orthodox, but equally thought-provoking on the Third Reich, is a collection of essays, **Germany, Hitler and World War II** *(Cambridge, £24.95)*, by the American academic Gerhard L. Weinberg.

New ground is broken in an interesting book on a reluctant wartime partner of Hitler's, **The Third Axis, Fourth Ally: Romanian Armed Force in the European War, 1941-45**, by Mark Axworthy and others *(Arms & Armour, £25)*. With territorial claims left over from 1914-18, Romania found herself swept up into the war on Russia and bombed by the Allies as main supplier of oil to Germany. It was against the front of the unfortunate Romanians that the deadly Soviet Stalingrad offensive was unleashed. A German officer in the Russian campaign once described to me the Romanians on the terrible retreat, a peasant army travelling with as many looted pigs-on-the-trotter as soldiers. Romania's war dead numbered 767,860, or nearly three times those of Britain. At the end, Romania switched sides; then came 45 years of Soviet domination.

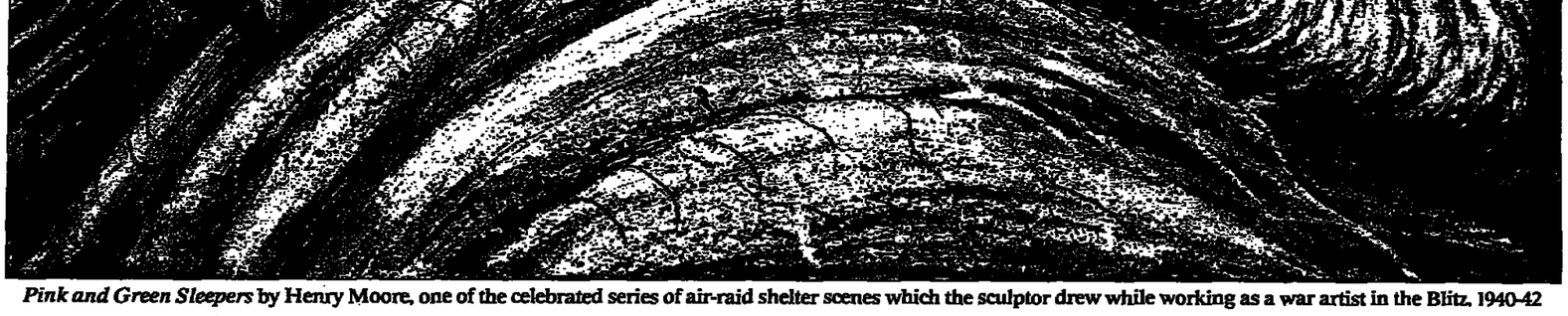
This last year of the war, too, has produced several personal accounts: **An Inch of Time** by Ian Weston-Smith *(Book Guild, £15)*; **A Clear Premonition: The Letters of Lieutenant Tim Lloyd to his Mother, North Africa and Italy, 1943-44**, edited by Raleigh Trevelyan *(Leo Cooper, £14.95)*; **Voices from the Past** by Herbert Levy *(Book Guild, £12.95)*; **Went the Day Well: Tributes to Men and Women who died for Freedom**, edited by Derek Tangye *(Michael Joseph, £14.99)*; all royalties go to the Royal Star and Garter Home for veterans.

Finally come the war memoirs of Douglas Fairbanks Jr, KBE, DSC, who is 86 this year: **A Hell of a War** *(Robson, £16.95)*. Jolly moments ashore in wartime London with such *dramatis personae* as David Niven, Vivien Leigh and Noël Coward notwithstanding, Fairbanks — unlike many enlisted Hollywood stars — spent a substantial time on active service, reaching the rank of captain in the US Navy. This is an engaging account; *Moon's a Balloon* Niven would have given it a favourable notice.

Four months after the war in Europe ended came VJ-Day. Ziegler quotes Alexander Cadogan's objection to celebratory fireworks that day: "Surely we have had enough of bangs in the last six years?" "Stuffy old guy," some of Reynolds's GIs might have commented. Yet it may well be that the Second World War will continue to dominate the bookstands long after all who remember it are gone.



British women offer GIs tea: some Americans found Britain backward; others made the most of their wealth



TATE GALLERY/BRIDGEMAN ART LIBRARY

Pink and Green Sleepers by Henry Moore, one of the celebrated series of air-raid shelter scenes which the sculptor drew while working as a war artist in the Blitz, 1940-42

Quality north of the border

THE Thistle Hotels group is spending more than £6 million on upgrading Hospitality Inn hotel in Glasgow and convention centre before relaunching it later this year. Eighty of the hotel's 307 rooms have already been refurbished, including 74 executive suites. The hotel can also host conferences for as many as 1,500 people and has 18 small eating rooms.

Meanwhile, the five-crown Quality Hotel in Aberdeen is cutting its room-only weekend rate from £75 a night to £29.95 during July and August. Accommodation is in either a club or executive room, each of which can sleep up to three people, and full Scottish breakfast is included. Reservations: 0800 444444.

☐ Business travellers planning to stay at least twice a month at the Beverly Hills Hotel on Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles, can get an individual telephone and fax number for their exclusive use every time they stay. Very frequent guests will also get their own room key, which, using the hotel's new electronic locks system, means they can use the same key whichever room they stay in. The hotel reopens next month after a two-year refurbishment which has cost $100 million (£61 million), with a $1,000-a-head special party of Hollywood stars. Reservations via Leading Hotels of the World: 0800 181 123.

☐ Hyatt Hotels is this month taking over the management of the 160-room Baku Hotel in the Republic of Azerbaijan, formerly part of the Soviet Union. The hotel, renamed The Hyatt Regency Baku, is aimed at international oil executives who are visiting the country.

Meanwhile, the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Hong Kong has launched a new scheme for business travellers. Called the Privilege Plan, it gives added-value benefits such as a complementary airport limousine transfer, free laundry up to a maximum five pieces a day and no surcharge for credit card calls. Reservations: 01345 581666.

ROOM SERVICE

☐ FANS of Kenny Ball can catch a special show on May 12 at the Wilmslow Moat House. Cost is £117.50 per couple and includes one night's accommodation, dinner, breakfast and the jazz show. The hotel's leisure facilities include a pool, sauna and squash courts. Details: 01625 529201.

☐ SPORTS and activity weekends, including golf, fishing, boating, racing and polo are being arranged this summer at Oakley Court, a Victorian country house hotel set in 25 acres of grounds on the banks of the Thames near Windsor. Rates include two nights accommodation and dinner on one night, plus the sporting activity. Details: 01753 609988.

BARGAIN OF THE WEEK

TO celebrate VE-Day, Horsted Place, a 20-room country house hotel near Gatwick airport, is cutting weekend room rates from £65 to £45 per person a night. Details: 01825 750581.

☐ SPORTS enthusiasts looking for a more exotic hotel holiday can take advantage of a package at ITT Sheraton's two luxury hotels in Venice, the Excelsior and Hotel des Bains. For £835 and £535 per person respectively, guests get seven nights accommodation (but not air fares) and use of all sports facilities, including golf, tennis, sailing and windsurfing.

Additional benefits include use of the Venice Club gold card enabling guests to free motor-boat shuttle between Venetian hotels, free entry to the casino and credit charging facilities. Reservations: 0800 353 535.

☐ LEADING hotels in the North of England have produced a joint marketing brochure called *Fine Individual Hotels*, listing the 16 hotels in the scheme, all graded as four crowns or above. Hotels include Etrop Grange at Manchester airport, Devonshire Arms in North Yorkshire and Langdale Hall and Country Club. Details: 01625 537583.

DAVID CHURCHILL

Putting on the Ritz again

David Churchill talks to the men who transformed one of the most famous names in the hotel business

This weekend the Ritz Hotel in London will be full for the first Bank Holiday weekend in memory — a result not only of leading international figures staying in London for the VE-Day celebrations but of the new spirit at one of the world's leading hotels.

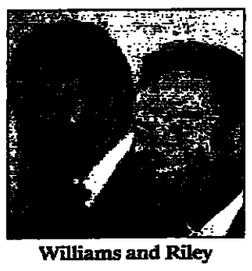
Exactly a year ago, the responsibility for running the Ritz was taken over by the Hong Kong-based Mandarin Oriental group, operators of some of the leading hotels in the Far East.

For Robert Riley, Mandarin's managing director, the move was an ideal stepping stone into its first European venture. "The Ritz remains one of the best hotel names in the world," he said on a visit to London last week to check on the first year's progress.

Founded in Piccadilly 1906 by César Ritz, the Ritz quickly became one of the most fashionable places to stay for the rich and famous. While the famous still come, it is still essential to be rich — room rates start at £195 a night and go up to £740 for a suite.

The new general manager, Brian Williams, who joined a year ago from the Mandarin Oriental in Macau, says that one of his first moves was to reopen the closed hotel entrance in Piccadilly (access for many years has been only through the Arlington Street entrance). "We thought it was an appropriate way to show people that we were not stuffy and wanted to be open to all," he says.

Mr Riley says that Mandarin's concern for customer service "emphasises the fierce competition all luxury hotels now face, especially in the Far east, for business travellers". As a consequence, he merged the group's human resources and operating departments in 1990 to "ensure that the senior



Williams and Riley

people running the hotels also had responsibility for the quality of staff and service levels".

Mandarin now embraces extensive training programmes for staff at all levels: those that have successfully been through the courses are entitled to wear a fan-shaped Mandarin symbol lapel pin. Mr Williams says: "We are not trying to do anything overly sophisticated — just establishing a consistent level of service throughout the hotel."

He believes this emphasis on staff training has been the biggest change in the hotel over the past year. Although most senior management has been replaced by Mr Williams, since he took over, the bulk of the hotel's operating staff has remained. "It is really a matter of motivating them," he adds.

While capital investment is planned, Mr Williams say this will be carried out gradually over the next few years. "It is the hotel's spirit that needed changing, not the bricks and mortar."

The customer-driven approach is typified in small, and sometimes novel, ways. "When one of our elderly guests in the restaurant complained that she could not read the menu because the type weas too small, we wondered whether or not we should use a larger typeface," Mr Williams says.

"Then we hit on the idea of buying a selection of 20 or so pairs of glasses from Boots which we now keep in a presentation box and offer to guests who have forgotten their glasses — or perhaps don't realise they need them."

While most of Mandarin's dozen hotels are located in the Far East — although it operates one in San Francisco and has just taken on the contract to run a hotel in Hawaii — Mr Riley has not ruled out further expansion in Europe. "But we have to recognise we are a fairly small hotel company and expanding too fast could overstretching our ability to provide the best service to our customers," he says.

"We don't all have to be large global chains to prosper: concentrating on our top end of the market niche has proved very successful so far."

Walking on the wild side

Footpaths are a route march

MANY public rights of way are obstacle courses, according to *The Good Walks Guide*, published by Which? tomorrow. *Marianne Curphey writes.*

Researchers for the guide encountered a variety of obstacles, including stiles covered with barbed wire, overgrown and deliberately blocked paths, farmyards full of slurry with no obvious way through, and paths over arable land that were almost invisible.

The guide to 150 walks, printed in colour on A4 ringbound sheets, also criticises walkers who treat the countryside badly, paths that are not waymarked properly, empty fertiliser sacks littering the land, map-marking discrepancies and an irrational network of paths.

The editor, Tim Locke, said: "The fact that the network exists at all is to be treasured, but paths do not always go where landowners and walkers want them to.

"We found public rights of way reaching dead ends at parish boundaries, paths leading to main roads and a wall of heavy traffic. Other walks indulge in inexplicable minor detours and little loops where it seems common sense to cut a corner," he added.

However, he said that matters were improving and between 1986 and 1991 annual expenditure on rights of way doubled from £12.3 million to £24.8 million, but progress was "piecemeal".

The guide aims to convey an impression of the terrain and ease of route-finding. Length and walking time are given for the full walk and any variants. The walks are graded and grid references and OS map numbers are included. It can be ordered, price £25, by dialling freephone 0800 252100.

Also published this week is *The Green Travel Guide to the Lake District*, a leaflet which attempts to persuade walkers and day-trippers to leave their cars at home and travel by public transport.

It has been put together by the Friends of the Lake District (01539 720788), a voluntary organisation dedicated to conserving the national park.

A selection of the best bargain holidays on offer this week

CITY BREAKS

BOOKINGS FOR short breaks are showing no signs of diminishing according to Premier Cities, which has sold 9,000 city-based holidays this winter. Top of the list is Paris, but the real surprise this year is Dublin, which has become the third most popular destination. The top five cities are Paris, Amsterdam, Dublin, Vienna, and Prague.

Tired of those? Cadogan Travel (01703 332661) has short breaks to Tunisia, Morocco, and Madeira. With its sister company GB Airways, it is offering a three-night stay in Hammamet in June for £261 per person, while a similar break in Marrakesh starts at £321, or from £335 per person in Funchal.

Avro (0181 715 1999) has a selection of flight-only deals from Gatwick to Alicante (£134), Arrecife (£125), Athens (£134) or Malaga (£95) for selected dates in May.

Scots can have a theatre break in London including two nights' hotel accommodation, breakfast, return rail travel, best tickets to a show, concert or sports event from £169 per person through Keith Prowse (0345-881882).

Cresta Holidays (0161-9277000) has city breaks in Europe from Birmingham, Manchester, Glasgow or Edinburgh on British Airways, including £170 for two nights in Paris or two nights in Geneva for £236.

The Savoy Group, which still owns the Lancaster Hotel in Paris, has linked up with Le Shuttle and Eurostar to offer two nights in the hotel in the centre of the French capital over weekends from £280 per person including rail travel. (0171-872-8080)



Dublin is an increasingly popular destination for weekend breaks

AUSTRALIA

ANYONE aged 60 and over can fly to Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane or Perth between now and June 15 at a return fare of £599 through Gold Medal Travel (01253-792200). Companions must be at least 55. Quest Worldwide (0181-547-3322) have the same deal but add that there is no minimum stay requirements and tickets are valid for one year. So, between May 7-June 15, does Travelmood (0171-258-0280) for over-60s, also allowing a companion over 55 to fly at the same price. Travelmood also offers a round-the-world £679 fare via Bangkok, Hong Kong, Sydney, Auckland, Tahiti and Los Angeles or return flights to Sydney or Brisbane for £565.

Meanwhile, returns for younger travellers to Sydney are available with KLM throughout July and August from £758 with Airline Ticket Network (01772-727747)

Around the world fares have rarely been lower and Trailfinders (0171-938-3366) is offering a journey from London to Bangkok, Hong Kong, Sydney, Auckland, Tahiti, Los Angeles, New York and back to London for £639, plus £28 taxes. The trip must begin before June 15 and return from New York in September.

NAVAL history fans can now stay in the house in which the young Horatio Nelson married Fanny Nisbet 208 years ago, at the Montpelier Plantation Inn, 700 feet up the slopes of Mount Nevis on the Caribbean island of Nevis. Prices through Caribtours (0171-581-3517) start at £928 for one week including flights.

Elegant Resorts (01244-329671) have cut the cost of some of their luxury Caribbean holidays this month and next. Now 14 nights in a suite in Cobblers Cove, Barbados, including half board, flights and transfers, costs £1,195 per person. The same time in Round Hill, Jamaica but without meals is £865.

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Delays will return as the Cabinet decides to shelve plans to privatise air traffic control — and the Treasury starves it of funds

Airport nightmares are on the way back

Remember the bad old days when travelling by air was a nightmare of delays, tents at Gatwick, and constant announcements that aircraft could not take off because air traffic control was swamped with flights?

Well, it could all be about to happen again.

In the late 1980s, everyone blamed the Civil Aviation Authority for failing to realise early enough that it needed to spend a great deal more to replace old radars and to train more controllers, who been unable to cope with the extraordinary growth in demand from scheduled and charter flights. The CAA always claimed that the criticisms were unfair.

But this time there can be no argument and the culprit is clear — the Government.

In a move that has left the airlines, the CAA and even its own senior civil servants gasping, the Cabinet has just decided that it can no longer proceed with the privatisation of air traffic control.

Perhaps that in itself is not surprising, given the controversy around the first attempt to hand over the responsibility for ensuring that aircraft flying over Britain kept a safe distance apart.

But what is staggering is that the Treasury still *assumes* that air traffic control is to be privatised — and therefore will not need to raise any more cash from public sources. So, instead of allowing the CAA to borrow, under the public sector limits, the £100 million or so a year needed to keep pace with demand, the mandarins are now insisting that the CAA reduce the level of borrowing over the next three years, then begin to repay earlier loans. The inevitable outcome, according to those involved, is that the delays and congestion will soon be as bad as ever were.



The Travel Business

HARVEY ELLIOTT

The story is one to be remembered by business travellers and holidaymakers alike as they sit fuming in airport lounges. The Government decided formally in 1993 that air traffic control was to be privatised and sent a discussion document to all interested parties for their comments.

It was full of policy and principle, but rather short on detailed proposals.

The unions were adamantly opposed to the plans and the airlines worried that the outline ideas put forward would be costly and too complex.

Then the Post Office privatisation plans also ran into problems and it was decided that two attempted privatisations going through together was one too many. Legislation to remove air traffic control from public ownership was dropped.

When the PO privatisation finally ran into the buffers, a "window of opportunity" for air traffic control suddenly appeared.

The Department of Transport hurriedly set up a series of meetings with the Civil Aviation Authority, the air traffic service, leaders of the travel industry and four of Britain's largest airlines.

Sometimes meeting secretly in the Park Lane Hotel in London, different sub-groups gradually evolved a compromise plan which, they were convinced, would be acceptable to all.

The National Air Traffic Service (Nats) would become a non-profit-making corporation, outside the public sector borrowing requirement and free to raise cash from wherever it liked. The airlines agreed to pay off the £400 million debts accumulated by Nats and to be responsible for ensuring that the system was non-profit-making and provided to all-comers.

The new proposals, they said, would be more efficient, cost less to run and reduce the charges levied on airlines. They were all prepared to make a formal announcement when the Government dropped its bombshell.

"We have tried to persuade the Government to tell us what we are going to do now, but there is just a deafening silence," said one of those involved in the meetings. "We have the worst of all worlds — no privatisation, which would enable us to raise money on the open market, and no authority to raise the cash through state sources."

The first funding crisis could come within the next few months when the CAA tries to raise £250 million to build a new Scottish control centre, already 18 months behind schedule and needed to guide flights across the Atlantic and over northern Britain.

Over the past few years, delays caused by air traffic control have dropped sharply but there are now signs that they are increasing. In the third quarter of last year 21 per cent of flights were delayed by more than 15 minutes, compared with 19 per cent a year earlier. Only 45 per cent of charter flights were on time, compared with 49 per cent a year earlier.

Without new equipment, say the experts, it can only get worse. Be prepared.

French win battle

France emerged as the top ski destination for British skiers last season, pushing Austria into second place for the first time, according to statistics compiled by tour operator Crystal, *writes Graham Duffill.*

Sterling has lost a quarter of its value in Austria over the past two years, and the country's share of the marketfell from 32.8 per cent in 1992/93 to 25.9 per cent in 1994/95, with France rising from 29.3 to 31.1 per cent.

Other gains and losses also followed currency fluctuations, Switzerland falling from 10.6 per cent to 8 per cent and Italy rising from 7.9 to 13.3 per cent.

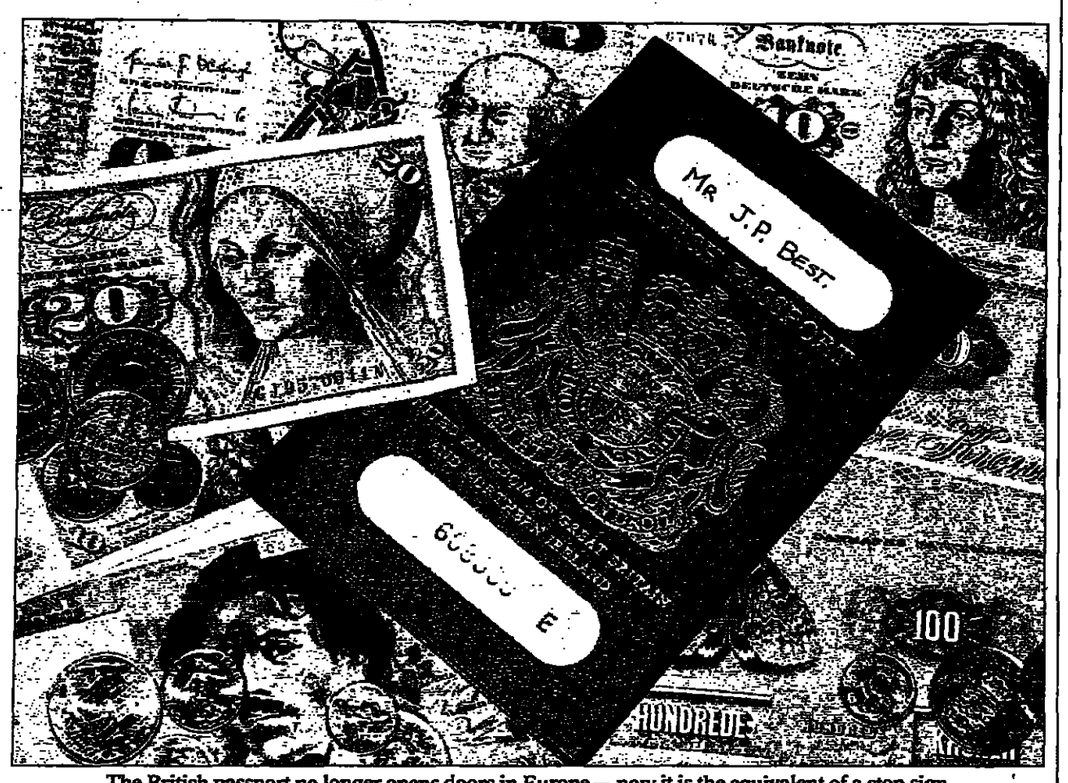
Although North America remained a very small part of the ski market — the United States and Canada rose slightly to 3.7 per cent — Crystal says the value for money which the weak Canadian dollar offers will make Canada a very attractive destination next season.

Brochures are already out and bookings to Canada are up considerably on this time last year. Austria is up 27 per cent.

Crystal claim to have emerged from last season as Britain's largest skiing tour operator, taking 19.6 per cent of the 425,000 who went skiing with holiday companies. Of the total estimated ski market of 730,000, approximately 180,000 travelled independently.

British penalised

Harvey Elliott on the queue at passport control



The British passport no longer opens doors in Europe — now it is the equivalent of a stop sign

Travelling around Europe is becoming increasingly difficult — if you are British.

While millions of people in the seven "Schengen" countries — Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, France, Germany, Spain and Portugal — can travel between their countries without a passport or any other travel document, Britons are often held up in long queues at their destination and have to buy a full passport for even the shortest trip to Europe.

Already the British Excursion Document, which cost £3 from a local Post Office and was popular for "one-off" day trips to France, has been phased out and from the end of this year the £12 British Visitors Passport, of which around a million were issued each year, will also go.

The decision to get rid of the BVP and the BED was taken last year in an effort to clamp down on football hooligans — but many day-trippers are still attempting to buy the excursion document from post offices.

Home Secretary Michael Howard said that the BVP was "a poor quality travel document which does not provide definite evidence of national status or identity".

It was often used, he said by criminals terrorists and football hooligans and had been of "considerable concern" to police and immigration authorities for a very long time. Spain had decided to withdraw acceptance of it from October 1 and they will be useless after January 1 1996.

Passports Offices are standing by for a flood of applications for full passports which cost £18 and are valid for ten years but hope to be able to process applications in little more than a week. There will, however, be delays because of more complex information required on application forms.

In an effort to speed up the process travel agents hope to be able to process applications themselves and have had talks with the Home Officeon how the scheme will operate.

It is likely that they will hold forms which can be issued at the same time as the holidaymaker books a journey, and the agent will then be able to assist in filling in the form, accept the fee and send the details electronically to the passport office. The process should be much quicker.

In the meantime many immigration staff in Europe are making life difficult for British passport holders. Belgium in particular seems determined to check every British passport closely and as passengers step off the Eurostar train at Brussels airport they are regularly held up for up to half an hour by Belgian immigration officers.

British airlines claim that they are now assigned the worst arrival gate at airports because of the need to check passengers from outside the "Schengen" countries. For example, flights from Spain to France are now regarded as "internal" with no more controls than are used between London and Edinburgh.

Special "Schengen" arrivals lounges are now being introduced to enable passengers to disembark and leave the airport within minutes, while British flights are confined to remote areas where immigration desks have been maintained. Two other countries — Italy and Greece — have signed up to join the agreement, Austria will do so soon and others are certain to join in the future, to create a vast document-free travel zone at the heart of Europe.

The government, however, insists that Britain will maintain its immigration controls.

"The Passport Agency is satisfied that the standard passport which costs £18 will provide a convenient and effective replacement for the BVP and the BED and that it will be able to provide a flexible and responsive service which fully meets the needs of the travelling public throughout the year" says the Home Office.

Saga fights for singles

The curse of the single supplement — the surcharge imposed by hotels on holidaymakers who travel alone — has been ended, at least in Britain.

After a five year long campaign Saga Holidays has persuaded all 700 hotels offered in their British holiday brochure to drop the surcharges which can add up to 50 per cent to the cost of a room for a lone holidaymaker.

Saga chairman Roger De Haan said this week that the company, which provides holidays for the over 50s, was now concentrating on forcing foreign hotels to do the same.

"For years the five million people over the age of 60 who live alone in this country have been discriminated against" said Mr De Haan."Whenever they have been on holiday either at home or abroad they have been charged a high premium for travelling alone. Now at last we have succeeded in persuading hoteliers in Britain that it makes sense for them to sell a room during the off-peak season at a rate equivalent to half that of two people sharing."

About 40 per cent of Saga's clients travel alone. Most of those are women who would prefer their own room.

Until this year even in Britain they had to pay extra for the priviledge. A hotel would sell a room for, for example, £50 per person per night if it was being used by two people. If only one person checked in he or she would be charged at least £75 and sometimes as much as £100.

"We were only able to get the breakthrough during the worst of the recession when hotels were desperate to obtain anything for their rooms" said Mr De Haan. "The main travel industry just didn't seem to cater for the single traveller."

There are still problems in persuading hotels in the most popular tourist areas to cut their rates especially during peak times, however, and in America Saga's initiative is regarded with incredulity by most hoteliers who let rooms regardless of the number of people using them.

"Although we may have won a battle in Britain we still have to win the war worldwide," said Mr De Haan."The message we are determined to get across to the hotel industry is: Don't discriminate against single travellers".

Saga has now launched its series of brochures for the winter and evidence of the growing influence of "grey power" is shown by the addition of many free extras for



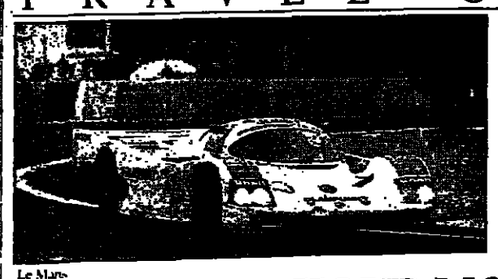
Saga clients in some resorts. For example Saga customers in Egypt are now provided a free three minute phone call home when they take an all inclusive package.

One of the brochures offers special interest holidays, ranging from sky-diving to scrabble. The most popular passtime demanded by Saga clients is Whist, closely followed by Bridge.

HARVEY ELLIOTT

THE TIMES

TRAVEL OFFER



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ITINERARY

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Depart Central London by luxury coach at approximately, 9.30 a.m. for Dover - Calais ferry crossing. Arrive Rouen late afternoon for overnight stay.

Saturday, 17 June:
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.....
.....
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ABTA D9016 — If you do not wish to receive further information from Times Newspapers or companies specially selected by us, please tick the box. ☐ — ATOL 1631

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Seen and heard

UNSEEN by many delegates, Alan Flook, secretary general of the International Federation of Tour Operators, was briefly at the world conference on sustainable tourism in Lanzarote last week.

He even gave a short speech to introduce an academic from Munich University, who explained how IFTO, whose members send some 40 million people from 17 European countries on holiday each year, was trying to influence destination countries to improve their quality.

Apologies for failing to spot Mr Flook during his brief visit to the week-long conference.

How to help tourism

A cut in VAT would save seaside holidays

The traditional British seaside holiday is in "terminal decline" because of the twin foreign threats of guaranteed sunshine and the cheap cost of living, according to a new survey.

Mintel, the marketing organisation, says that Britain's problems were bound to get worse, but another survey suggested that the government could halt the slide immediately by cutting the rate of VAT. Today's report by the British Tourist Authority and Touche Ross claims that 87,000 jobs would be created, foreign exchange earnings increased by £1.2 billion and an additional ten million foreign tourists be attracted yearly. Britain now has the second-highest rate of VAT on tourism, after Denmark. Adele Biss, chairman of the BTA says: "If the government cut the VAT rate everyone would be a winner with more jobs, cheaper holidays and a much healthier balance of payments. We need holidays in Britain that are affordable and competitive with our rivals overseas."

BTA's conclusions are borne out by the Mintel survey. A spokesman for Mintel said: "Overseas holidays will always remain popular due mainly to the excitement and adventure of exploring other countries and the more reliable weather. Taking a holiday abroad is often cheaper than a holiday in the UK."

Mintel claims that hopes for the future of the British holiday industry now rests with the short-break market which is growing as fast as the traditional long break declines. "As consumers return to increased levels of confidence in the economy, the UK short-breaks market should prosper. People will be happy to supplement their overseas holidays with a number of short breaks — a return to the holiday taking pattern of the late 1980s," said Russ Byran of Mintel.

HARVEY ELLIOTT

WEEKEND TRAVEL

Travel the world again in Weekend on Saturday

Alan Lee goes walkabout in **Sydney**

Felice Eyston on the **Great Barrier Reef**

Camping in **France and Italy**

On the silk route to **Samarkand**

What to do for the Bank Holiday

Deep midair sleep

Is it worth £300 an hour to sleep on an aircraft? On 32 long-haul flights, British Airways' Sleeper Service is designed for first-class air travellers who wish to sleep deeply, rather than doze fitfully, as is generally the fate of those at the more crowded end of the aircraft.

I flew from New York to London on the 10.35pm flight to spend the night with these serious sleepers. The one-way ticket sets you back more than £2,000 — that is £300 for each sleeping hour. But it's a popular service: all the sleeper seats on all three flights out of New York that night were booked.

The evening starts at JFK airport, where an Anton Mosimann-inspired buffet dinner is served in the first-class lounge. This is so that once on board, nothing will distract the tired traveller from his rest. Most of the passengers sit singly at candlelit tables. They are all men. There is not much jollity among these sleep-seekers, no one makes conversation, business cards are kept in wallets.

Once on board, duvets are dispensed, and nearly all the passengers change unselfconsciously into dark blue pyjamas ("sleep suits", in BA talk). I haven't worn my jimjams in front of so many chaps since the dear days of Dormitory Three.

Almost immediately after take-off the lights go out, and the stewardess brings round hot chocolate. I listen for a while to the sleeping passengers and try to read, but before long, with the enormous seats reclining to become a bed, and a warm duvet, for the first time on a transatlantic flight I succumb to a deep sleep. Seven hours later, we arrive in London, and I am relaxed and rested. I change out of my pyjamas and my clothes are returned unrumpled.

For those busy magnates and top executives who know that a full night's sleep is essential for the next day's busy deal-making, British Airways Sleeper Service is a must.

For those who find the first-class Sleeper fare a trifle steep, there's still the crowded conviviality of the economy seats. That's where I shall most likely be on my next transatlantic flight — unless those Lottery numbers come out right.

DANNY DANZIGER

● *Sleeper Service is available on all BA First Class direct flights lasting more than seven hours and less than ten. The return London-New York first class fare is £4,026, not including airport tax.*

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Host city banishes Olympic doubts

Atlanta earns rich reward from the $1 billion Games

FROM DAVID MILLER IN ATLANTA

THERE will be foul-ups at the centenary Olympic Games here next year — that is inevitable in a billion-pound extravaganza of 271 events in 29 sports — yet everything I have seen over the past few days suggests this will be an Olympics beyond all expectation.

The cloud of Oklahoma's terrorism may hang ominously in the air, but the capacity of this thrusting, modern city to run big events, to handle conventions and crowds in vast numbers, together with an infectious southern desire to greet the world hospitably, promises an exceptional two weeks. Cynics should run for cover now.

Tickets went on sale this week for July 19 to August 5 next year — 11 million of them, more than Los Angeles, where the Games were held in 1984, and Barcelona, the 1992 host, combined. If the streets of Barcelona were bursting at the seams every night, Atlanta will be suffocating: 22 of the sports are within a ten-minute car drive, or 25-minute walking radius, from the city centre.

Gymnastics and basketball alone will each be watched by 30,000 in separated halves of the vast, indoor Georgia Dome, principally used for American football.

There may not be the late-night Mediterranean languor that made Barcelona exotic, but there will be a throb of expectation seldom before experienced. The United States, and especially the south, is gearing itself, privately and corporately, for the greatest event and recognition in their, never mind Olympic, history.

The organising committee, at least outwardly, is "unfazed". Atlanta is accustomed to D-day: the massive convention centre, which will house seven sports, is already booking for 2025. There were more than 10,000 telephone calls on the day the ticket-office opened.

The £1 billion Games budget may have been an anxiety, but A. D. Frazier — short, stocky and disarmingly composed, the man who ran Jimmy Carter's 1987 election campaign and who is chief operations officer here — said candidly: "The financial risk is less today's topic than the operations risk." The logistics, as for any Games, are frightening; though you would never guess, while observing Frazier as he draws steadily on his cigarette and deals, unflappably, with each day's series of mini-crises.

One of them was worse. A construction worker fell to his death from the roof of the new 85,000-capacity main stadium, which is subsequently to have re-configuration at 50,000 as a gift to Atlanta Braves baseball team. The Georgia community will have the legacy of nearly £300 million-worth of new facilities, including an exceptional equestrian centre 20 miles out of town.

The death might have halted work on the stadium, only half-built and behind schedule, but operational modifications satisfied the unions. The stadium will be ready for test events, an invitation athletics meeting and the United States trials, next May and June. Ironically, late completion saves costs on a year's maintenance, management and security. This will be the first Olympic stadium with sponsors' executive boxes.

> 'There will be a throb of expectation seldom before experienced'

More than two thirds of the budget has been raised and the recently-signed £66 million deal for Japanese television rights has eased the anxiety. Of the remaining £360 million required, tickets sales may far exceed the projected figure of £165 million — which, allowing for things like coin-sales, commissions, souveniirs and parking, may leave £100 million to come from additional sponsorship. Besides the share from the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) exclusive top ten multi-national sponsors, the organising committee already has 29 big national sponsors.

Frazier is sanguine about the terrorist factor. The Olympic Security Support Group, combining federal, state and city police and 35 different national and international agencies, has been busy for four years, co-operating across jurisdiction boundaries.

"Things are no different than for the Pope's visit to Denver," Frazier added. "Oklahoma hasn't changed our plans one whit. We had to be prepared before and we have to be now." Particularly when, he admitted, Olympic access means that "we've got to let people in even if we don't happen to like who they are".

He is optimistic that security arrangements for buildings, officials spectators and competitors, though obvious, will not be intrusive. He is more concerned about transport congestion, even though Marta (Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transport Authority), the city's new rail network, leaves the London Underground's Northern Line in the realm of steam. There are worries over hotels, too. Despite Atlanta's extensive hotel range, some spectators may, as at Barcelona, have a frustrating two-hour journey from out of town.

In central, commercial Atlanta, a concrete jungle, the Games will leave another impact. Billy Payne, the lawyer whose almost evangelical inspiration earned his city the Games — together with the human rights leader, Andrew Young — has helped promote the conversion of a derelict central area of drab streets alongside the Dome into a memorial park. More than 12,000 trees are being planted.

No decision has been made on involvement of Greece in the opening and closing ceremonies, in compensation to Athens, defeated host candidate five years ago. The Greeks are busy pressing the IOC to announce the vote-free award of a future Olympics, during the centenary. I suspect the Greeks are whistling in the wind.



Fifty years on, the Oval gasholder provides part of a familiar backdrop for Keith Miller, a cricketing legend. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

Free spirit of golden summer of victory

BY ANDREW LONGMORE

ROLL back the years, if you like, spruce up the long locks with some black polish, even put some vigour back into bowing legs, but just leave the spirit alone. Keith Miller — K. R. Miller — always had plenty to spare and, yesterday, back in town and professing a loss of memory after a long flight, he was soon in full flow, prompted by the sight of an old friend and foe, Denis Compton.

Miller has been persuaded back to England at the age of 75 to be the special guest at a charity match at the Oval on Saturday. It would not be much of a celebration without him because Miller, Flt Lt Miller as he was 50 years ago, made that joyous summer his own just as surely as Compton captured the season of 1948. It was not just the statistics of the series of five Victory "Tests" — Miller was more bothered about the form of horses than cricketers — it was the style which enthralled a nation just blinking its way into the sunlight of normality.

Here was this tall, athletic, Australian, barely 25, with a shock of jet black hair which would be swept imperiously back into place from time to time only to cascade back across forehead and face, seemingly able to do what he liked on a cricket field. Score runs with blinding speed, bowl fast from any length of run-up, hit sixes at will, catch anything that moved.

"As he was walking back to bowl, he would just turn round when he felt like it," Compton remembered. "Yet he had great balance, a perfect action. He was the greatest fast bowler I've ever seen." Silence. Then a pat on the shoulder. "Keep going, Compo, you were batting well there."

Fifty years on, Miller can still recall the five matches as the best and most enjoyable of his long career. It began to get a little serious after that, he reckoned, and Miller was never one for being serious. Life was there to be lived to the brim, whether batting, bowling, betting or partying. His one memory of the Victory series surprisingly is not the six which had to be retrieved from a shrapnel hole on top of the commentary box at Lord's — the biggest hit ever seen at the ground, say the sages — nor the other 179 runs from that whirlwind of an innings, but the sight of his team-mate, Graham Williams, going out to bat in the first match against England.



Miller, a young man who played the game for fun

"He had been shot down in the Middle East and been a prisoner of war in Germany for four years. As he went out to bat, there was this lovely, quiet, muffled applause which went round the ground, completely different from any other type of applause I have heard on a ground before or since. He had tears in his eyes and I've remembered the moment to this day."

Miller's talk is refreshingly modern, free of backlash. No need for phrases like "in my day" now that Australia are top dogs again, but as Compton voiced typically trenchant views about the inadequacies of Ray Illingworth, Mike Atherton and the system of selection, Miller was wholeheartedly and, for English ears, depressingly full of praise for young Australian batsmen, Ponting, Slater, Bevan. "They all use their feet so well. Beautiful players, all of them. And, in the West Indies, this boy Lara. There are some fantastic cricketers." Living for the moment, still.

His stories of Don Bradman have a contemporary relevance, too. One came from Bramall Lane on the 1948 tour after some controversy about short-pitched bowling. Bradman had just dispatched two bouncers for four, before wandering down to speak to Miller, his partner. "Hey, Nugget [Miller's nickname], I hope they don't take this bloke off for bowling too many bumpers."

The only regret Miller himself professes is that he never managed to play village cricket. "You drive round the country, see these wonderful grounds. I'd liked to have played some of that sort of cricket. But I've backed a few winners, had a few drinks, scored a few runs, got a few wickets. That's all you can ask for, isn't it?"

☐ *The Bunbury Victory Cricket Match, an England XI captained by David Gower v The Bunbury All Star XI in aid of the Royal British Legion and the Surrey Youth Trust, starts at 1pm on Saturday May 6.*

Dry pitches encouraging counties to turn to spin

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

WITH the warm, dry spell forecast to continue for the second round of Britannic Assurance championship matches, which start today, many counties have taken the precaution of adding an extra spin bowler in case of wear to unusually dry pitches.

Northamptonshire and Glamorgan, who both started with crushing victories, meet at Cardiff with the visitors thinking of giving off-spinner Jeremy Snape his first outing in championship since 1992.

Hugh Morris, who has not played since damaging his back during the game with Oxford University last month, is likely to return to captain a Glamorgan side which has won all four games in his absence. The slow left-armer Neil Kendrick, formerly with Surrey, is also in the 12.

John Childs, the Essex left-arm spinner, could play the first match of his 21st season at Chelmsford as Neil Williams is doubtful because of a hamstring injury. Worcestershire may bring back the fast bowler Alex Wylie, 22, who has not played a senior game for two years because of a series of back injuries.

Hampshire, still searching for their first win of the season, call up the slow left-armer, Darren Flint, to partner Shaun Udal at Lord's, where John Emburey and Phil Tufnell, who shared 13 wickets in the defeat by Warwickshire, can expect to be fully employed by Middlesex, who have Richard Johnson available to strengthen the seam attack.

Derbyshire will give a debut to either Andrew Cottam or Tom Harrison, both slow left-armers, at Trent Bridge with the fast bowler Allan Warner making way. "We expect the pitch to encourage spin at some stage so this will be a good test of our resources," Kim Barnett, the captain, said.

Kent include their new off spinner, Steve Hertzberg, in a squad of 12 for their game against Sussex at Hove. Hertzberg, born in Carshalton, has played for both Western Australia and Tasmania.

☐ Bruce French, 35, the former England wicketkeeper, will retire from first-class cricket at the end of the season. French, who played in 16 Test matches and 13 one-day internationals, has decided to step down after 20 years in the game to pursue a new career in outdoor education.

He is gaining qualifications as a rock-climbing instructor and mountain leader. "I am and will remain a Nottinghamshire man through and through so I'm not looking for another county club. But I would like to stay in the game as a specialist wicketkeeper coach," said French, who made his debut at the age of 16 in 1976.

THE TIMES FANTASY FIRST XI SCOREBOARD

Figures include all matches completed by April 30.

Player (No)	Runs	Wkts	Total
Batsmen (001-113)			
C J Adams (001)	111	0	111
J C Adams (002)	0	0	0
G F Archer (003)	0	0	0
K L T Arthurton (004)	0	0	0
Asif Din (005)	0	0	0
M A Atherton (006)	176	0	176
C W J Athey (007)	0	0	0
R J Bailey (008)	4	0	4
K J Barnett (009)	164	0	164
M R Benson (010)	55	0	55
M G Bevan (011)	221	0221	
D J Bicknell (012)	87	0	87
T J Boon (013)	20	0	20
P D Bowler (014)	94	0	94
N E Briers (015)	209	0	209
A D Brown (016)	203	0	203
D Byas (017)	400	0	400
S L Campbell (018)	0	0	0
J D Carr (019)	12	0	12
S Chanderpaul (020)	0	0	0
M J Church (021)	64	0	64
P A Cottey (022)	89	1	109
G R Cowdrey (023)	0	0	0
J P Crawley (024)	74	0	74
W J Cronje (025)	72	2	112
D J Cullinan (026)	134	0	134
T S Curtis (027)	81	0	81
J A Daley (028)	131	0	131
R I Dawson (029)	51	0	51
P A de Silva (030)	15	0	15
M P Dowman (031)	145	0	145
N H Fairbrother (032)	24	0	24
A Fordham (033)	37	0	37
J E R Gallian (034)	46	3	106
M W Gatting (035)	33	0	33
G A Gooch (036)	231	0	231
A P Grayson (037)	75	2	115
K Greenfield (038)	12	0	12
J W Hall (039)	9	0	9
T H C Hancock (040)	0	0	0
R J Harden (041)	121	0	121
A N Hayhurst (042)	26	0	26
G R Haynes (043)	72	1	92
D L Hemp (044)	70	1	90
G D Hodgson (045)	23	0	23
A J Hollioake (046)	69	2	99
N Hussain (047)	111	0	111
S Hutton (048)	36	0	36
S P James (049)	132	0	132
P Johnson (050)	73	0	73
M Keech (051)	0	0	0
S A Kellett (052)	0	0	0
N V Knight (053)	157	0	157
A J Lamb (054)	54	0	54
B C Lara (055)	0	0	0
M N Lathwell (056)	27	0	27
W Larkins (057)	78	0	78
D A Leatherdale (058)	126	0	126
N J Lenham (059)	72	0	72
J J B Lewis (060)	6	0	6
N J Liong (061)	0	0	0
G D Lloyd (062)	145	0	145
J I Longley (063)	48	0	48
M B Loye (064)	3	0	3
M A Lynch (065)	50	0	50
G I MacMillan (066)	138	3	198
M P Maynard (067)	159	0	159
A A Metcalfe (068)	0	0	0
T C Middleton (069)	0	0	0
A J Moles (070)	111	0	111
R R Montgomerie (071)	197	0	197
T M Moody (072)	0	0	0
H Morris (073)	125	0	125
J E Morris (074)	131	0	131
R S M Morris (075)	20	0	20
M D Moxon (076)	232	0	232
M C J Nicholas (077)	29	0	29
T J G O'Gorman (078)	17	0	17
D P Ostler (079)	97	0	97
B Parker (080)	0	0	0
T L Penney (081)	116	0	116
P R Pollard (082)	0	0	0
J C Pooley (083)	27	0	27
P J Prichard (084)	79	0	79
M R Ramprakash (085)	174	0	174
T A Radford (086)	0	0	0
J D Ratcliffe (087)	0	0	0
R B Richardson (088)	0	0	0
D D J Robinson (089)	33	0	33
P E Robinson (090)	5	0	5
R T Robinson (091)	101	0	101
A S Rollins (092)	52	0	52
M A Roseberry (093)	109	0	109
D J Sales (094)	0	0	0
M Saxelby (095)	43	1	53
N Shahid (096)	17	2	57
A Singh (097)	0	0	0
B F Smith (098)	0	0	0
R A Smith (099)	89	0	89
N J Speak (100)	124	0	124
M P Speight (101)	0	0	0
A J Stewart (102)	67	0	67
A Symonds (103)	162	0	162
N R Taylor (104)	36	0	36
V P Terry (105)	60	0	60
G P Thorpe (106)	0	0	0
S P Titchard (107)	8	0	8
M E Trescothick (108)	16	0	16
R G Twose (109)	146	0	146
M P Vaughan (110)	62	1	82
M J Walker (111)	47	0	47
D M Ward (112)	0	0	0
T R Ward (113)	190	0	190
R J Warren (114)	0	0	0
M E Waugh (115)	0	0	0
A P Wells (116)	234	0	234
W P C Weston (117)	100	0	100
G W White (118)	32	0	32
J J Whitaker (119)	62	0	62
P R Whitaker (120)	0	0	0
S C Williams (121)	0	0	0
M G N Windows (122)	0	0	0
A J Wright (123)	27	0	27
All-rounders (124-165)			
M W Alleyne (124)	92	1	112
I D Austin (125)	64	2	104
P Bainbridge (126)	0	0	0
M A Butcher (127)	122	0	122
C L Cairns (128)	110	3	170
D G Cork (129)	93	10	293
R D B Croft (130)	201	2	241
K M Curran (131)	11	2	51
A Dale (132)	210	1	230
P A J DeFreitas (133)	4	6	124
S C Ecclestone (134)	0	0	0
K P Evans (135)	53	0	53
M V Fleming (136)	66	0	66
O D Gibson (137)	0	0	0
G A Hick (138)	22	0	22
C L Hooper (139)	0	0	0
R C Irani (140)	28	0	28
K D James (141)	0	0	0
S R Lampitt (142)	14	5	114
C C Lewis (143)	0	0	0
G W Mike (144)	54	0	54
Mushtaq Ahmed (145)	4	1	24
D J Nash (146)	55	3	115
A L Penberthy (147)	0	0	0
M Prabhakar (148)	97	5	191
D A Reeve (149)	84	3	154
D D Rose (150)	102	5	202
A W Smith (151)	0	0	0
N M K Smith (152)	88	6	208
P A Smith (153)	0	0	0
J N Snape (154)	0	0	0
F D Stephenson (155)	29	2	69
J P Stephenson (156)	8	1	28
C M Tolley (157)	0	0	0
S D Udal (158)	46	0	46
Wasim Akram (159)	0	0	0
M Watkinson (160)	59	6	179
G Welch (161)	2	2	42
C M Wells (162)	2	0	2
V J Wells (163)	31	5	131
P N Weekes (164)	37	0	37
C White (165)	204	3	264
Wicketkeepers (166-185)			
A N Aymes (166)	3	3	63
R J Blakey (167)	100	5	200
K R Brown (168)	14	2	54
M A Garnham (169)	0	0	0
W K Hegg (170)	113	2	153
G J Kersey (171)	25	3	85
K M Krikken (172)	0	4	80
S A Marsh (173)	60	3	120
C P Metson (174)	8	10	208
P Moores (175)	1	0	1
J R Murray (176)	0	0	0
P A Nixon (177)	51	2	91
W M Noon (178)	0	0	0
K J Piper (179)	8	5	108
S J Rhodes (180)	6	6	126
D Ripley (181)	0	1	20
R C Russell (182)	57	6	177
N F Sargeant (183)	0	0	0
C W Scott (184)	82	6	182
R J Turner (185)	21	3	81
Bowlers (186 - 287)			
J A Afford (186)	0	3	60
U Afzaal (187)	0	0	0
C E L Ambrose (188)	0	0	0
S J W Andrew (189)	0	0	0
M C J Ball (190)	56	2	95
A A Barnett (191)	0	0	0
S R Barwick (192)	0	0	0
S J Base (193)	0	0	0
J D Batty (194)	0	0	0
J E Benjamin (195)	2	8	162
K C G Benjamin (196)	0	0	0
W K M Benjamin (197)	0	0	0
M P Bicknell (198)	26	0	26
J Boiling (199)	14	2	54
J N B Bovill (200)	13	12	253
J E Brinkley (201)	5	1	25
M Broadhurst (202)	0	0	0
S J E Brown (203)	24	11	244
A R Caddick (204)	36	1	58
G Chapple (205)	17	3	77
J H Childs (206)	0	0	0
C A Connor (207)	5	4	85
N G B Cook (208)	0	0	0
K E Cooper (209)	32	2	72
D M Cousins (210)	13	4	93
N G Cowans (211)	0	0	0
D M Cox (212)	0	0	0
R P Davis (213)	22	1	42
M Dimond (214)	0	0	0
A A Donald (215)	53	9	233
M A Ealham (216)	31	3	91
J E Emburey (217)	27	6	147
M A Feltham (218)	0	0	0
M G Field-Buss (219)	0	0	0
D P J Flint (220)	0	0	0
M J Foster (221)	0	0	0
A R C Fraser (222)	15	3	75
E S H Giddins (223)	6	3	66
D Gough (224)	11	10	211
F A Griffith (225)	0	0	0
P J Hartley (226)	21	7	161
D W Headley (227)	1	1	21
E E Hemmings (228)	0	0	0
J E Hindson (229)	5	4	85
J G Hughes (230)	7	2	47
A P Igglesden (231)	0	0	0
R K Illingworth (232)	0	3	60
M C Ilott (233)	75	7	215
P W Jarvis (234)	4	0	4
R L Johnson (235)	0	0	0
G Keedy (236)	0	4	80
N M Kendrick (237)	0	1	20
A R Kumble (238)	35	4	115
D R Law (239)	0	0	0
R P Lefebvre (240)	13	6	133
J D Lewry (241)	0	0	0
S Lupsden (242)	0	0	0
M J McCague (243)	7	2	47
D E Malcolm (244)	0	8	160
N A Mallender (245)	0	0	0
P J Martin (246)	38	3	98
R J Maru (247)	0	0	0
D J Millns (248)	77	5	177
A D Mullally (249)	15	4	95
T A Munton (250)	0	0	0
P J Newport (251)	3	6	123
G J Parsons (252)	33	2	73
M M Patel (253)	60	8	220
R M Pearson (254)	0	0	0
D B Pennett (255)	0	0	0
R A Pick (256)	0	6	120
A R K Pierson (257)	33	0	33
A C S Pigott (258)	0	0	0
V J Pike (259)	0	0	0
N V Radford (260)	0	0	0
A R Roberts (261)	0	0	0
M A Robinson (262)	0	5	100
I D K Salisbury (263)	12	0	12
K J Shine (264)	0	0	0
C E W Silverwood (265)	0	0	0
G C Small (266)	32	5	132
A M Smith (267)	2	8	122
V S Solanki (268)	0	0	0
J Srinath (269)	23	7	163
H H Streak (270)	34	2	74
I G S Steer (271)	0	0	0
R D Stemp (272)	0	5	100
P M Such (273)	12	2	52
J P Taylor (274)	0	6	120
S D Thomas (275)	9	3	69
M J Thursfield (276)	0	0	0
H R J Trump (277)	13	0	13
P C R Tufnell (278)	6	7	146
A P van Troost (279)	6	4	86
C A Walsh (280)	0	0	0
A E Warner (281)	0	2	40
S L Watkin (282)	0	13	260
N F Williams (283)	12	8	172
R C Williams (284)	0	0	0
J Wood (285)	29	7	169
G Yates (286)	64	5	164
R S Yeabsley (287)	0	0	0

First team earns £250

DARREN REYNOLDS, from Barnsley, wins the first weekly prize of £250 in our Fantasy First XI game. Because of a late rush of entries, we are unable to run our list of the top 100 readers' teams until next week.

WINNING TEAM

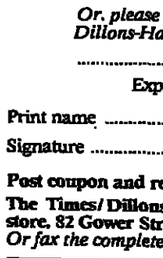
Player	Runs	Wkts	Total
M G Bevan	221	0	221
D Byas	400	0	400
G Gooch	231	0	231
M D Moxon	232	0	232
N J Speak	124	0	124
D G Cork	93	10	293
R J Blakey	100	0	200
J N B Bovill	13	12	253
D Gough	11	10	211
M C Ilott	75	7	215
S L Watkin	0	13	260
Total			2,640

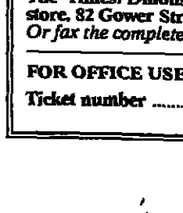
☐ One point is awarded for each run, 20 points for each wicket. Wickets include catches and stumpings by wicketkeepers, but not catches by fielders.

☐ Source: TCCB/PA Cricket Record

THE TIMES/DILLONS CRICKET FORUM

English cricket — what future?





IS THERE any hope for English cricket? Are the doom-mongers right to say that England will never be a force in the world until they completely reform their present structure? Join Michael Atherton and Graham Gooch (pictured left), Richie Benaud and Micky Stewart — four men who know more about modern English cricket than most — for what promises to be a lively evening of discussion and debate in this *Times*/Dillons forum on Wednesday, May 17.

Chaired by Alan Lee, cricket correspondent of *The Times*, the panel will look at all aspects of the game, from schools cricket to Test matches. There will be plenty of opportunity for the audience to question and debate with the speakers. A book-signing session will follow the forum.

The event will be held at Westminster Central Hall, Storey's Gate, London SW1 at 7.30 pm. Tickets at £10 (concessions £7.50) are available by ringing 0171-915 6613, by faxing the coupon below to 0171-580 7680, or by sending it with your remittance to Dillons the Bookstore, 82 Gower Street, London WC1, where tickets can also be purchased.

Please send me ..... ticket(s) at £10 each (£7.50 concessions) for the Times/Dillons Cricket Forum, to be held at Westminster Central Hall, London SW1 on Wednesday, May 17, 1995 at 7.30pm.

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هذا من الاصل

هكذا من الأصل

Leader of men prepares to hand over the torch



David Hands talks to John Hall before his farewell appearance for Bath in the Pilkington Cup final

"WHEN John Hall and Tony Swift retire, look at the average age of the side: it'll be around 23," Gareth Chilcott said gleefully.

No sentiment there from their former colleague for two of the longest-serving members of the Bath team that will play Wasps in the Pilkington Cup final at Twickenham on Saturday, two players for whom Bath Football Club has meant everything for a decade or more — even beyond the international caps that both players have won.

Sentiment, though, is not part of the Bath make-up. "One of the most difficult decisions I have had to make," Hall, the Bath captain, said of the omission from the cup final team this week of Graham Dawe, with whom he has played for 11 seasons. Always looking ahead, always what is best for the collective rather than the individual: it is this professional, business-like approach that has made Bath admired and respected for more than a decade.

Hall has been part of that approach since 1981, when he graduated to the club's senior side at the age of 18; burly, surly, sometimes overly aggressive, but with a resilience and ball-handling skills that made him — in English terms anyway — nearly ten years ahead of his time.

Jack Rowell, Hall's coach at Bath until last year, when he took over as England manager, does not pay tributes easily to individuals, but he describes the flanker as one of *the* players of all time in English rugby history.

"Anyone who knows the game understands implicitly that John has been a world-class player over a long period," Rowell said.

Hall has been one of the core players at Bath over the past decade, perhaps the last of the original group that also comprised Chilcott, Stuart Barnes, Simon Halliday and Richard Hill. A disparate group, all with the characteristic of original and independent thought.

There is another similarity. None, save Hill, received the number of England caps that they should have done, partly through injury and partly through a certain uncomfortable presence that they offered, never more so than during the mid-1980s.

"Never mind England, we're Bath," they seemed to say, because they were successful and the national side was not. The individuals and the club have matured since then, none more so than Hall, but his primary concern now is that the torch is handed down to a new generation.

Already he sees Phil de Glanville and Ben Clarke as the new hard core, demonstrating the commitment to the club above personal ambition that has been such a feature over recent years.

"You have to want the side to do well, there has to be an unselfish attitude," Hall said. It was this attitude that allowed Bath to get up from the rack of a 13-0 deficit against Wasps in the 1986 final and grind out their third successive cup victory.

He finds it hard to compare the quality of the many fine club sides in which he has played. "I knew a turning point was coming in the club's fortunes as far back as the 1982-83 season," he said.

"During the mid-1980s, we had a particularly good side, but I would say that the 1993-94 side was the best because the standards of the other sides had improved. There wasn't a weakness, and that was without Jerry Guscott." That side achieved the league and cup double, as did their forbears of 1989.

Yet ask Hall what he will miss as he trudges off into retirement and it is "the routine, meeting the boys on the Friday before an away game, the coach journey, the cards, the chat. Some of the players get terrific stick and they have to learn how to take it and dish it out, it's part of the character-building."

He believes that he was worth more than his 21 international caps, but, above all, he seeks to be remembered for the positive qualities that he brought to the rugby field, for the athletic skills at lineout and loose play, for the ball-winning qualities at ruck and maul that have been the bane of opponents' lives.

What of the future for Hall, an independent financial advisor? Manager, coach, club spokesman, all are possibilities. "If they want me, I'm here," he said.

"There are a lot of issues within the game that need to be addressed, of which the most important is compensation. Most players want to make some money out of the game, but they would feel happier if it was done with the governing body's consent.

"Anyone who thinks a wealthy commercial concern may not come knocking at the door offering players a lot of money is being naive." Few believe that Bath in general, or Hall in particular, has been guilty on that score.



Hall, of Bath and England, has been at the heart of his club's unparalleled success over the past decade

SPORTS LETTERS

Junior cricket keeps alive

From the Headmaster of Habergham High School

Sir, Following your report and editorial (April 29) on the condition of school cricket, I can assure you that, at this state school, the game is alive and well.

In addition to our fixtures against local state schools, we also run three sides — under-13, under-15 and first XI (sixth form) — in matches against seven cricket-playing independent schools in the North West. In their first match last week, our first XI had the better of a drawn game against one independent school: Habergham 113 for five; our opponents 60 for eight. Three years ago, our first XI captain was also captain of the England Under-17 side.

Sadly, however, we did not attend the MCC meeting at Lord's last week because we were not invited. Had we been invited, we should certainly have been represented.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID CLAYTON,
Headmaster,
Habergham High School,
Kiddrow Lane,
Burnley, Lancashire.

From Mr Michael Bourne

Sir, I hope that your editorial will enliven the debate about the provision of cricket for children and make known that the void created by the game's decline in most state schools is being filled, where it can be, by junior leagues and the junior sections of local clubs.

However here, too, as with schools, money could help a great deal. The junior leagues are self-financing. Any funding through grants and sponsorship is most difficult to come by. Moreover, the work done by those on committees and by the many adults who either look after or coach thousands of youngsters throughout the country is entirely voluntary. These people do much to keep the game alive for future generations of all classes and deserve recognition.

Junior league cricket will thrive all the more where there is the opportunity and support for it to do so. Perhaps MCC and other bodies might acknowledge fully this area where many a county player first learned the game.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL BOURNE,
68 Carr Manor Avenue, Leeds.

Golf hazards in Rangoon

From Mr J-P. B. Ross

Sir, Mr Richard Godfrey's games of golf in Botswana (Sports Letters, April 14) were, evidently, a piece of cake compared with the game in Rangoon in the early Fifties.

Our so-called fairway was a moderately wide stretch of coarse tropical grass kept throughout at about one inch high. The greens were close shaven at around one centimetre. Bunkers were of sieved earth, mixed with a modicum of far-from-fine sand, while the rough was nature's own unclaimed and varyingly dense jungle.

In addition, the fairway was wont to produce supplementary hazards, such as the footprints of animals, great and small, and their droppings, a distracting encounter with which gave no free drop under local rules. In the monsoon season, moreover, the possibility of total inundation, without warning and in a few minutes, was ever imminent.

When one came to the clubhouse (a courtesy title) for the first time, one was allotted a caddie, a local boy, barefooted and bare-bodied save for a pair of shorts. This child (average age 12) would invite one to perform a practice drive, while he watched quizzically, but with an undoubtedly experienced eye.

This done, the caddie would hand one the club suited to the length of the hole, while he shouldered one's bag, taking in his hand one's eight- or nine-iron. He would then proceed down the course and station himself a short, medium or flatteringly long way in front of the tee, standing near the left-hand or right-hand rough, from where he would beckon one to drive off.

When asked to explain his apparently whimsical routine, the caddie would reveal that, watching the practice drive, his trained eye was able to assess one's likely length of shot, together with any tendency to hook, pull or slice. Using this judgment, he went on to say that he would place himself as far down the course as he estimated one would drive, and there waited, armed with the heavy iron, so that if one's shot did go into the rough, he could immediately follow it into the jungle. Beating the undergrowth, he would make sure of "frightening away the cobras" that lurked plentifully in the jungle thickets. Thus was one enabled to play one's next shot.

This had a wonderfully sobering influence on one's propensity to zig-zag the course from rough to rough, though very rarely indeed did a caddie fail to find a waywardly struck ball.

Yours truly,
J-P. B. ROSS,
La Ferrière-de-Flée,
49500 Segré,
France.

Wyatt's wicket

From Mr Marshall Whiting

Sir, Judge Hallgarten's reminder (Sports Letters, April 27) that R. E. S. Wyatt favoured the addition of a fourth stump, and his innovative idea of using laser beams for lbw, highlight the need to renovate other aspects of cricket.

Especially archaic is the practice of so-called first-class games being played over two innings per team. The origins of this anachronism go back to the 19th century days of coach and horses and unprepared pitches. Teams from the far flung ends of the country could spend up to three exhausting days struggling to low-scoring fixtures. Representative county teams struck on the scheme of a second innings each to make the journey worthwhile.

This convention flies against the fundamental principle of the game as played the world over: one team's innings against the other team's innings. Not only are first-class matches invariably rendered tedious, but also the complication of two innings each has resulted in artificially engineered declarations, baffling systems for bonus points, etc.

Given today's transport system, and manicured pitches, professional teams should play the game as it is meant: one determining innings each, perhaps over a maximum number of overs, 150 for county games and 200 for Tests.

Yours faithfully,
MARSHALL WHITING,
37 Bradbourne Park Road,
Sevenoaks,
Kent.

From His Honour Judge Anthony Hallgarten

Sir, The published version of my letter last week omitted to make clear that I was proposing the introduction of a fourth stump (in lieu of the present lbw law) in the AXA Equity & Law League or one of the minor leagues on an experimental basis only.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY HALLGARTEN,
Flat D,
41 Gloucester Avenue, NW1.

THE TIMES

Your chance to win the new £16,000 MGF

The Times offers readers the chance to win the new MGF.

Simply collect six of the tokens appearing every day over four weeks to enter our prize draw.

You may enter as many times as you wish, but must use the official application form, which will be printed each Saturday in *Car 95*.

Each entry must be accompanied by six tokens. The competition closes on May 27.



Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5211. They must include a daytime telephone number.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

LEGAL NOTICES

To the shareholders of GN Great Nordic Ltd.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Company will be held on Tuesday May 16, 1995 at 3.30 pm at Industriens Hus, H.C. Andersens Boulevard 18, DK-1596 Copenhagen V.

The Agenda is as follows:

a) report on the Company's activities

b) presentation of the annual financial statements for approval; discharging the Board of Directors and the Executive Management from their obligations

c) resolution for the distribution of the net profit for the year, including the declaration of a dividend on Company shares

d) proposals for changes to subarticle 3 of Article 2, subarticle 1 of Article 10, subarticle 2 of Article 13, subarticle 1 of Article 15 and Article 31 of the Company's Articles of Association

e) Board resolution to transfer DKK 269,263,000 from the Company's share premium fund to free reserves (other reserves)

f) resolution that the Board be entitled to acquire up to 10 per cent of own shares

g) election of Board members

h) appointment of two auditors for the current financial year.

For the resolutions set out under items d and e of the agenda to be passed, Article 18 of the Articles of Association requires that at least one quarter of the Company's share capital is represented at the Annual General Meeting and that the resolutions be approved by not less than two thirds of the votes cast and two thirds of the voting share capital represented at the Annual General Meeting. In the event that the required percentage of the share capital is not represented, but where the resolution has been approved by the above-mentioned qualified majority of votes, the resolution may, however, be passed at a new general meeting convened for this express purpose by the said qualified majority, irrespective of the percentage of the voting share capital represented at the General Meeting.

From Monday May 8, 1995 the agenda and the full and complete resolutions to be proposed at the Annual General Meeting, as well as the financial statements, the Auditors' Report and the Report of Directors, will be available for shareholders' inspection at the Company's registered office on the third floor of Kongens Nytorv 26, 1016 Copenhagen K, and at the Company's bankers in London and Paris. Not later than eight days prior to the Annual General Meeting, the above material will also be posted to the registered address of every shareholder on the Company register.

Admission cards to the Annual General Meeting will be available on request from the Company's office from Monday to Friday between 10 am and 4 pm, up to five days prior to the Annual General Meeting, to any shareholder who can prove a good title to his shares. As far as bearer shares are concerned, the shareholder shall prove his title to such shares by presenting a statement issued by the bank in which his shares are held, of his holding of Company shares as of May 4, 1995.

Any right to vote shall be conditional upon the voting share being registered in the name of the shareholder and upon the shareholder being entitled to the meeting pursuant to the above-mentioned provisions. Where the shareholder has acquired the share by way of transfer, the share shall furthermore have been registered in the name of the shareholder for not less than three months prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting.

Copenhagen, May 1, 1995

The Board of Directors

FINANCIAL NOTICES

UNILEVER N.V.

DIVIDEND ON DUTCH CERTIFICATES OF Fl.1,000, Fl.100, Fl.20 and Fl.4 FOR ORDINARY CAPITAL ISSUED BY N.V. NEDERLANDSCH ADMINISTRATIE-EN TRUSTKANTOOR

Final dividend payments of Fl.4.71 per Fl.4 ordinary capital in respect of the year 1994 will be made on or after 19th May 1995 against surrender of Coupon No. 16. Coupons may be encashed through one of the paying agents in the Netherlands or through Midland Securities Services ("Midland") at the address below; in the latter case they must be listed on the special form, obtainable from the Bank, which contains a declaration that the certificates do not belong to a Netherlands resident.

DUTCH DIVIDEND TAX relief is given by certain Tax Conventions concluded by the Netherlands. A resident of a convention country will, generally, be liable to Dutch dividend tax at only 15% provided the appropriate Dutch exemption form is submitted. No form is required from UK residents holding "K" certificates if the dividends are claimed from Midland within six months from the above date. If the certificates are owned by a UK resident and are effectively connected with a business carried on through a permanent establishment in the Netherlands, Dutch dividend tax at 25% will be deducted and will be allowed as credit against Dutch tax payable on the profits of the establishment. Dutch dividend tax on this dividend is Fl.1.1775 at 25% and Fl.0.7065 at 15%. The proceeds from the encashment of coupons through a paying agent in the Netherlands will be credited to a convertible florins account with a bank or broker in the Netherlands.

UK INCOME TAX at the reduced rate of 5% on the gross amount will be deducted from payments made to UK residents instead of at the lower rate of 20%. This represents a provisional allowance of credit at the rate of 15% for the Dutch dividend tax already withheld. No UK income tax will be deducted from payments to non-UK residents who submit an Inland Revenue Affidavit of non-residence in the UK.

A statement of the procedure for claiming relief from Dutch dividend tax and for the encashment of coupons, including names of paying agents and convention countries, can be obtained from Midland at the address below.

N.V. NEDERLANDSCH ADMINISTRATIE- EN TRUSTKANTOOR
London Transfer Office, Midland Securities Services, Client Delivery, Midland Bank PLC, Mariner House, Pepys Street, London EC1N 4DA.
3rd May 1995.

LEGAL NOTICES

CASE NO. 98C 05160
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
QUEEN'S BENCH DIVISION
LEEDS DISTRICT REGISTRY
BETWEEN:
THE COMMISSIONERS OF CUSTOMS & EXCISE
Plaintiff
-and-
ERTAC ENVER
Defendant
To: ERTAC ENVER
Late of 39 Bird-in-Hand Lane, Bromley, Kent, BR6 2AN
TAKE NOTICE THAT AN ACTION HAS BEEN COMMENCED AGAINST YOU in the High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division Case No 1995 C.03160 by The Commissioners of Customs & Excise of Orpington VAT Office, 86 The Walnuts, Orpington, Kent BR6 0TN to which the Plaintiff claims for Value Added Tax in the sum of £42,048.94
AND THAT IT HAS BEEN ORDERED that service of the Writ in the said Action on you be effected by this advertisement.
AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that you must within 14 days of the publication of this advertisement inclusive of the day of such publication acknowledge service of the said Writ or Summons by completing a prescribed Form of Acknowledgement of Service which may be obtained on request from the solicitors whose name and address appear below otherwise judgment may be entered against you.
Dated the 4th day of May 1995
Signed
DEBB LUPTON BROOMHEAD
Solicitors
117 The Headrow
Leeds LS1 5JX
Tel: 0113 245 9301
Ref: JSH
Plaintiff's Solicitors

REVERTER OF SITES ACT - EXTINGUISHMENT OF RIGHTS THE FORMER WELLS CENTRAL CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL, WELLS, SOMERSET
WHEREAS:-
1. By a Deed dated 1st July 1858 between John Davis Sherston (1) and the Vicar and Churchwardens of the In and Out Parishes of Saint Cuthbert in Wells (2) the site (and building) of what became known as the Wells Central Church of England Primary School was granted to the said Vicar and Churchwardens and their successors as trustees pursuant to section 2 of the School Sites Act 1841.
2. The said school premises ceased to be used for the purposes of a voluntary school in 1977 and pursuant to section 1 of the Reverter of Sites Act 1987 a trust of sale has arisen in respect of the said premises
NOW TAKE NOTICE:
1. The Diocese of Bath and Wells intends making application to the Secretary of State for Education for the inclusion of the above named school in a future order under section 2 of the Education Act 1973: the purpose of the order is to allow the assets of the foundation to be used for the benefit of new and continuing schools of the same denomination within the Diocese. The same order will extinguish the rights of any beneficiary under the trust for sale.
2. Any beneficiary who wishes to oppose the extinguishment of his rights should notify his claim in writing to Gould & Swayne, Solicitors, 31 High Street, Glastonbury, Somerset BA6 9HA (ref: STC) no later than three months following the date of publication of this notice.

No. 001856 of 1995
IN THE MATTER OF RUSSELL HOBBS TOWER LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
Notice is hereby given that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated the 26th April 1995 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above-named company from £45,000,000 to £11,250,000 and the minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above-mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on the 28th April 1995.
Dated the 3rd day of May 1995
Garrett & Co
St Paul's House
Park Square
LEEDS LS1 2PJ
Ref: JW.CAO
Solicitors for the above-named company

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
HUGHES ROOFING (SOUTHERN) LIMITED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Norfolk Royal Hotel, Richmond Hill, Bournemouth, BH2 6EN on June 1995 at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act. Notice is also hereby given, pursuant to Section 98(2)(a) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that Jamie Taylor of Messrs. Taylor Gotham & Fry, The Old Exchange, 234 Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2EG is qualified to act as an Insolvency Practitioner in relation to the above company, and will furnish creditors, free of charge, with such information concerning the company's affairs as they may reasonably require.
Dated the 1st May 1995 By order of the Board A. Elson Director

SPOTWALL LIMITED
-In Administrative Receivership-
Registered Number: 2540796
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a general meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above-named company will be held at BDO Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA on 15 May 1995 at 12:00 hrs for the purpose of having a report laid before the meeting and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the Administrative Receivers. Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented.
Please note that a creditor is entitled to vote only if he has delivered to the Administrative Receivers at BDO Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London, W1M 1DA, not later than 12.00 hrs on 12 May 1995 details in writing of the debt claimed to be due from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of The Insolvency Rules 1986 and there has been lodged with the Administrative Receivers any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his behalf.
G S Kinlan
Joint Administrative Receiver

SWIFT PAPERS PLC
(In Administrative Receivership)
Principal Trading Address: Swift House, Crossways Business Park, Anchor Boulevard, Dartford, Kent DA2 6QH
Company Number: 1927418
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named company will be held at Great Eastern Hotel, Liverpool Street, London EC2M 7QN on 9 May 1995 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the Insolvency Act 1986.
A list of names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at Touche Ross & Co of PO Box 810, Cedric House, 8-9 East Harding Street, London EC4A 3AS during the two business days preceding the above meeting.
Dated: 26 April 1995
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
N K DENNADOR
Director

PUBLIC NOTICES

Christopher A W Phillips deceased

Would the next of kin of Christopher Alexis Wallace Phillips late of 12 Oakleigh Avenue, Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex who died on 19 April 1995 or any person with knowledge of their whereabouts please contact Wedlake Saint, Solicitors, 14 John Street, London WC1N 2EB. Tel 0171 405 9446. Ref RH.

LEGAL NOTICES

De Bruin Design Limited
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on 12th May 1995 at 11.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq. A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors. DATED THIS 28th April 1995 G De Bruin - Director

Prioryvalk Plc (In Administration)
Theme Entertainment
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, on 17th May 1995 at 14.30 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq. A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors. DATED THIS 28th April 1995 Warren Goldberg - Director

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
PROMPTLINK LIMITED Company Number: 2566474 We, DAVID ALAN ROLPH and RICHARD HOBART MOORE, of MOORE STEPHENS, ST. PAUL'S HOUSE, WARWICK LANE, LONDON, EC4P 4BN hereby give notice that on 24th April 1995 we were appointed Administrative Receivers of the above-named company by National Westminster Bank Plc under the terms of a debenture dated 11th November 1992 giving the holders a fixed and floating charge over the whole of the assets of the company. Dated 24th day of April 1995. DAVID A. ROLPH and RICHARD H MOORE. Joint Administrative Receivers

THE SPRINGS HOTEL (WALLINGFORD) LIMITED (IN ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVERSHIP)
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
A meeting of the creditors of The Springs Hotel (Wallingford) Limited is to be held at Price Waterhouse, Thames Court, 1 Victoria Street, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 1HB on 18 May 1995 at 10.00am under the provisions of Section 48 of the Insolvency Act 1986. The purpose of this meeting is to receive the report of the receivers and if the creditors wish to do so, to appoint a committee of creditors.
Creditors who have not received notice of the meeting who wish to attend should contact the receivers' office (telephone number 01753 752000) and ask for Tim Spence.
Any creditors requiring a copy of the report (which is available free of charge) should write to Price Waterhouse, Thames Court, 1 Victoria Street, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 1HB.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting.
PN Sprott
Joint Administrative Receiver
3 May 1995

COMPANY NOTICES

CANADIAN PACIFIC LIMITED
(Incorporated in Canada)
ONTARIO & QUEBEC RAILWAY COMPANY
6 PER CENT DEBENTURE STOCK
6 PER CENT COMMON STOCK
In preparation for the payment of the half-yearly interest payable on June 1 next, the debenture stock transfer books will be closed at 3.30 p.m. on May 1 and will be re-opened on June 2.
The half-yearly interest on the common stock will be paid on June 1 to holders of record on May 1.
D. R. Keast
Deputy Secretary
62-65 Trafalgar Square,
London, WC2N 6DV.
May 1 1995

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171-782 7344 OR FAX: 0171-782 7827
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

Cool response to summer football

Clubs steer clear of the InterToto route into Europe

By Russell Kempson

TRYING to find a taker for the InterToto Cup is proving as difficult as anything the Football Association has had to handle all season. Coping with allegations of back-handers and match-fixing, or dealing with disorderly players and supporters, pales in comparison. England cannot find a representative for the newly-created competition and the FA, for once, is stumped.

At face value, the lure of the InterToto is significant. For clubs that have not qualified for Europe by the traditional routes — winning a trophy or finishing high in the league — there is the offer of a possible place in the preliminary round of the Uefa Cup next season. Cue dreams of fame and fortune.

Yet the drawbacks of such an ill-considered idea — the brainchild of Uefa, the sport's governing body in Europe — render it as good as useless for members of the FA Carling Premiership. Who wants to play at least four matches during the summer at a time, historically, when rest and recuperation are the only items on the agenda?

"Players just won't get a break," Nigel Pleasants, the Leeds United secretary, said. "They'll be playing right through June and July and then it's into August and the Premiership again. It is something we've discussed, but we'll leave it until the issues of this season have been decided." Leeds lie in sixth place in the league, which could be good enough for Uefa Cup qualification next season.

Further down the table, InterToto interest is equally lukewarm. Tottenham Hotspur are unattracted and they still harbour hopes of leapfrogging over Leeds in the final reckoning, while Wimbledon, those anti-establishment scoundrels, have also gone with the trend after their initial ardour had cooled.

"We kicked it into touch," Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, said.

Ray Wilkins, the Queens Park Rangers manager, is nonplussed by the thought of an active holiday period — as is Alan Ball, his Southampton counterpart — and Loftus Road would not be available, anyway. After Rangers' last home match against Tottenham on Saturday, the pitch is being relaid. "The bulldozers are coming in on Tuesday and we wouldn't have anywhere to play, even if we wanted to," Sheila Marson, the Rangers' secretary, said.

Arsenal are more concerned with a European Cup Winners' final against Real Zaragoza, of Spain, in Paris next week. If they retain the trophy, they will automatically return to Europe, but if they lose to Zaragoza, they are hardly likely to seek consolation against possible opponents from Luxembourg, Slovenia and Slovakia while their footballing colleagues are idling their lives away at more exotic venues.

All of which provokes the question: why did the Premiership clubs vote to embrace the InterToto when it was first proposed to them four months ago? Were not the implications obvious then? The clubs even wanted to take the maximum four slots — they were subsequently give three — yet they are now deserting *en bloc*.

"It was their original decision," an FA spokesman said yesterday. "We will send out the invitations after the league programme has been completed, but if we can't get at least one entrant, it could be a bit embarrassing, politically." Uefa could also impose a fine of about £50,000 on the FA.

All is not lost, though, anticipating such natural wastage, Uefa has placed a select few countries on standby. Nobody much seems to care in England but Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan are waiting with baited breath. InterToto fever is almost upon them.

Tottenham in the clear over Dumitrescu deal

By Our Sports Staff

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR were yesterday cleared of making any improper payments in connection with their purchase of Ilie Dumitrescu, the Romania international midfield player, from Steaua Bucharest. Tottenham paid £2.72 million for Dumitrescu and yesterday Steaua admitted that they had declared only £1.6 million of the fee to the Romanian authorities, with the balance going to the player and foreign go-betweens.

Last week, Dumitrescu, who is on loan to the Spanish club, Sevilla, confirmed he had received a £544,303 payout from Steaua on moving to White Hart Lane. Steaua are obliged by the Romanian football authorities and local tax laws to report such fees and are now facing an investigation by the authorities and a likely inquiry by their owners, the Romanian army.

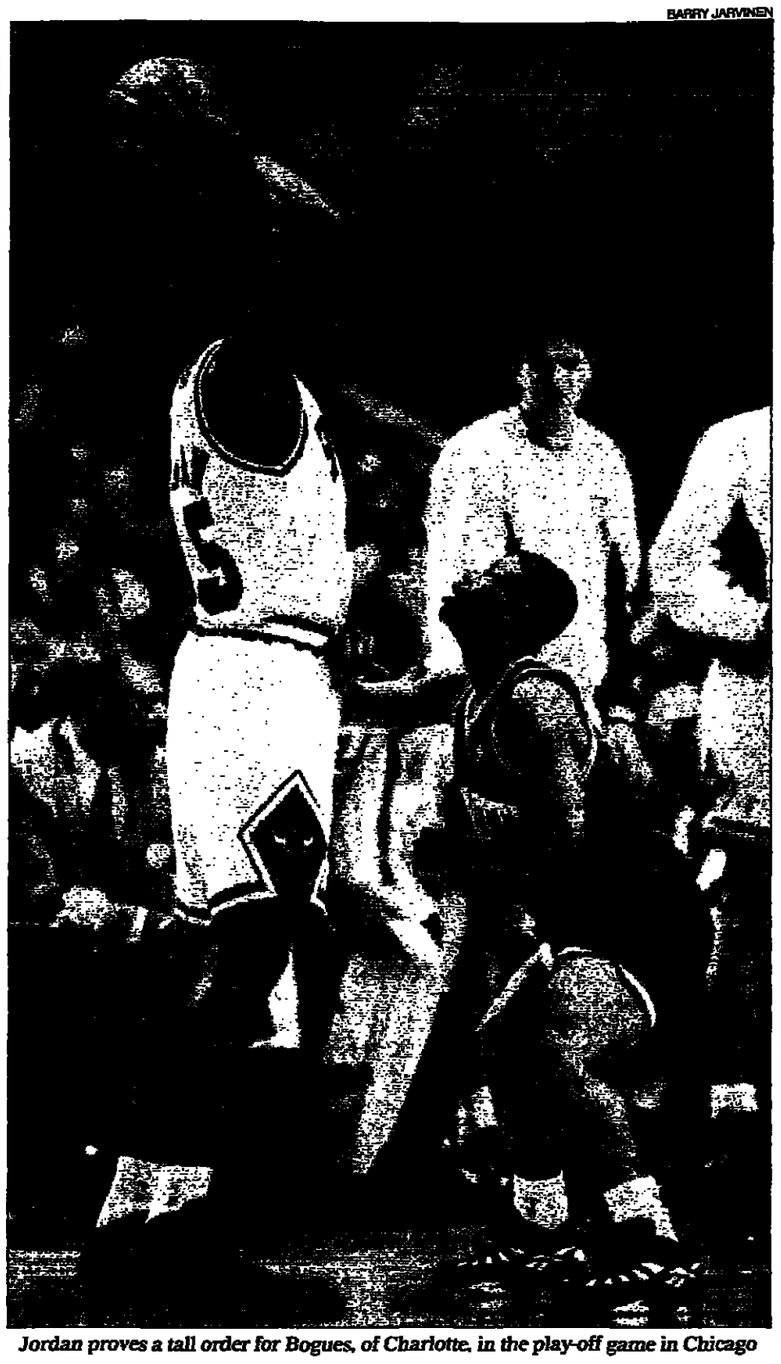
Arsenal have succeeded in their plea for more tickets for next week's European Cup Winners' Cup final against Real Zaragoza in Paris. They have been granted an extra 2,000 tickets, which will be put on sale at Highbury tomorrow morning, in addition to their initial allocation of 14,300. Zaragoza also received 14,300 tickets for the 48,000-capacity Parc Des Princes.

Arsenal sold out of their allocation on Sunday and the additional tickets will be sold to personal callers only at a maximum rate of two per person, with the club demanding proof of each applicant's season-ticket, Bond or Travel Club membership, plus a valid passport. Some tickets will be available as part of air tour and Eurostar train packages.

Steve Thompson was yesterday named as the new manager of Southend United, the Endsleigh Insurance League first division club. He was chosen for the job ahead of five other candidates, including the club's midfield player, Ronnie Whelan. Thompson took over in a caretaker capacity when Peter Taylor, the manager, was dismissed in mid-February.

☐ Wim Jonk, the Dutch midfield player, has agreed to join PSV Eindhoven from Internazionale, of Milan, for an estimated fee of £2.2 million. Jonk, 28, moved to Italy two years ago and is expected to sign a four-year contract.

BARRY JARVINEN



Jordan proves a tall order for Bogues, of Charlotte, in the play-off game in Chicago

Jordan gives Bulls the edge

MICHAEL JORDAN was the architect of a key victory for the Chicago Bulls in the National Basketball Association (NBA) play-offs in Chicago. Jordan scored 25 points and helped to shut down Charlotte's attack in a 103-80 triumph over the Hornets.

The victory gave the Bulls a 2-1 lead in the first-round, best-of-five series. The regular-season champions, San Antonio, Central Division winners, Indiana, and perennial powerhouses, Phoenix, all completed clean sweeps on Tuesday to reach the NBA quarter-finals. Chicago can join them by winning at home today. The fifth game, should one be necessary, would be played on Sunday in Charlotte.

The Bulls led only 39-37 when they changed their defensive tactics, putting Jordan on the much smaller Charlotte guard, Muggsy Bogues. The move helped Jordan to double-team Alonzo Mourning on defense, forcing key turnovers and containing the Hornets' scoring leader.

Charles Barkley, a teammate of Jordan in the 1992 Olympic gold medal-winning side, scored 47 points to take Phoenix, the visitors, past Portland 117-109. Barkley made 16 of 26 shots from the field as the Suns advanced to a match-up against Utah or Houston.

San Antonio finished off Denver with a 99-95 triumph on the Nuggets' home floor. Sean Elliott making five of his 18 points in the final 33 seconds to seal the victory after Denver drew level at 93. San Antonio will meet Seattle or Los Angeles Lakers in the quarter-finals.

Reggie Miller scored 32 points for Indiana in a 105-89 victory at Atlanta. The Pacers await the winner of the New York-Cleveland series, the Knicks holding a 2-1 lead.

Rogers and Smith to join forces to boost new eight

By Michael Rosewell

THE Olympic rowing selection process goes up a gear this weekend when the British men race nine crews in Piediluco, Italy. Two combinations, the coxless pair of Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent, and the coxless four, with the Searle brothers on board, are tried and successful international combinations.

Jurgen Gröbler, Britain's chief coach, will, however, reveal a new-look eight in which Graham Smith and Richard Rogers, crew-mates in the 1991 world junior gold medal coxless four, fill the vital two stern seats. Guy Pooley, best known as a sculler, is also included after reverting to rowing in his Olympic attempt. John Deakin replaces Garry Herbert, the Olympic gold medal winner, in the coxswain seat.

Two other earlier junior gold medal winners, Robert Thatcher and James Cracknell, the latter having switched to sculling from rowing, will be tested in the open double sculls after proving themselves the fastest combination in recent trials in Belgium. Considerable interest will also centre on the first appearance of Peter Haining and Carl Smith in a lightweight double scull. Haining is the world single lightweight champion, and Carl Smith is second only to Redgrave as a collector of international medals.

Eight other top lightweights, the Nottingham- and London-based coxless fours, will renew rivalry as they fight for the slot in this new Olympic boat class.

The British women's squad will be in Cologne this weekend. William Mason, the chief coach, races his personnel in five coxless pairs on Saturday and two coxless fours on Sunday. Guin Batten races in a single on both days in preparation for the World Cup which stars in two weeks.

BRITISH MEN'S ENTRY: Open coxless pairs: S Redgrave (Leander), M Pinsent (Leander). Open coxless fours: T Foster (London University), G Searle (Molesey), J Searle (Molesey), R Obholzer (London University).
Open eight: R Hamilton (Leander), B Hunt-Davis (Leander), J Walker (Molesey), G Pooley (Leander), R Manners (Leander), M Parish (Cambridge University), G Smith (London University), R Rogers (Imperial College), J Deakin (Nottingham County).
Open coxed fours: P Bridge (Leander), A Story (Leander), R Morrison (Leander), G Stewart (Molesey), H Bass (Leander).
Open single sculls: W Hall-Craggs (Tideway Scullers). Open double sculls: J Cracknell (Leander), R Thatcher (Leander).
Lightweight double sculls: C Smith (Nottingham County), P Haining (Auriol Kensington).
Lightweight coxless four: D Lamon (Nottingham County), J McNiven (Nottingham County), T Kay (Nottingham County), Hessian (Nottingham County). Lightweight coxless four: N Strange (London), I Watson (London), S Ellis (Imperial College), B Helm (London).

IN BRIEF

Douglas's victory fails to lift England

A SUPERB victory by Desmond Douglas over Liu Guoliang, the world No 11, could not save the England men's table tennis team from a 3-1 defeat by China in the world championships in Tianjin yesterday (Richard Eaton writes). Later, England lost 3-0 to Austria, which leaves them close to relegation from the top category.

Douglas's victory by 21-12, 14-21, 21-11 over Liu, on only his second day back for England after five years out of regular international competition and at the age of 39, was extraordinary, although he later lost 21-17, 21-18 to Kong Ling Lui, who is the world No 10.

England's women also lost twice — 3-0 to South Korea and 3-1 to Taipei — with Lisa Lomas picking up the only win. They, too, are in danger of relegation.

Bateman to leave

Rugby league: Allan Bateman, 30, the Wales and Great Britain centre, is to leave Warrington at the end of the season to join Cronulla in Australia on a three-year deal (Christopher Irvine writes). The former Wales rugby union international was signed from Neath in 1990.

Keighley's case over their omission from the Super League and compensation claim for £500,000 was adjourned yesterday to a date to be fixed at Leeds High Court. Jack Wainwright, the club's secretary said: "We have not dropped the case. We have put one or two points to the Rugby Football League on which we require answers."

Swiss rolled

Hockey: England and Italy made sure of the two places available for the junior European Cup tournament in Denmark next year after victories in the six nations' qualifying tournament at Genoa yesterday. England beat Switzerland 3-0 with two goals by Hall and one from Conway. Scotland's hopes were dashed when they lost 1-0 to Italy. The tournament ends tomorrow after a rest day today.

In the running

Athletics: Phil Banning, the former Great Britain middle distance runner, has been appointed the Welsh national coach. Banning, 44, succeeds Malcolm Arnold, who is now Great Britain coach.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: San Francisco 4 Los Angeles 3 (15 inns), Philadelphia 6 Cincinnati 0; Atlanta 7 Florida 1; Pittsburgh 7 St Louis 6, Montreal 9 New York 8; Houston 5 Chicago 2, Colorado 6 San Diego 5 (11 inns)
AMERICAN LEAGUE: Cleveland 11 Detroit 1; Boston 8 New York 0 and 3-5, Kansas City 3 Minnesota 3; Toronto 9 Chicago 8, Seattle 15 Texas 3, Oakland 2 California 0

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Play-offs: Eastern Conference: Indiana 105 Atlanta 89 (Indiana win best-of-five series 3-0), Chicago 103 Charlotte 80 (Chicago lead best-of-five series 2-1)
Western Conference: San Antonio 99 Denver 95 (San Antonio win best-of-five series 3-0), Phoenix 117 Portland 109 (Phoenix win best-of-five series 3-0)

CRICKET

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: North Perrott: Somerset 357-5 dec (K A Parsons 134, S C Ecclestone 95) and 81-1 Gloucestershire 178 (R C J Williams 66) and 236 (R C Williams 64, R C J Williams 51) Somerset won by nine wickets. Chester-le-Street: Durham 395-6 dec (J A Daley 173, D G C Ligertwood 74no, S D Birbeck 73) and 251-2 dec (S Hutton 103no, J A Daley 65) Glamorgan 247 (A J Dalton 82, A D Shaw 59, S D Birbeck 5-57) and 166 Durham won by 233 runs
OTHER MATCH: Oxford University 273-9 dec (C Gupte 90, M Jarrett 67), Bedfordshire 140 (J Ricketts 5-51, J Attfield 4-67) at the Parks Oxford won by 133 runs.

FOOTBALL

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Millwall 1 Ipswich 0.
SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Tonbridge 3 Chertsey 0
Tuesday's late results
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Wimbledon 0 Liverpool 0
ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Barnsley 1 Oldham 1; Watford 2 Charlton 0. Second division: Birmingham City 0 Bradford City 0, Bournemouth 3 Shrewsbury Town 0; Crewe Alexandra 3 Hull City 2. Third division: Chesterfield 1 Carlisle 2, Scarborough 1 Walsall 2
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Celtic 1 Partick Thistle 3.
VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Southport 2 Telford 1, Stalybridge 2 Macclesfield 2; Yeovil 3 Welling 3
ALLBRIGHT BITTER WELSH CUP: Semi-final, second leg: Cardiff 0 Swansea 0 (Cardiff win 1-0 on agg)
BOB LORD TROPHY: Final, second leg: Kettering 1 Bromsgrove 6 (Bromsgrove win 10-2 on agg)
UNIBOND NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Colwyn Bay 0 Morecambe 0, Frickley 0 Matlock 1. First division: Bamber Bridge 3 Lancaster 3, Farsley Celtic 3 Caernarfon 1, Fleetwood 2 Harrogate Town 0, Warrington 2 Workington 3.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Leek 1 Cheltenham 3, Rushden and Diamonds 2 Dorchester 1, Trowbridge 1 Stringbourne 1.
DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury 2 Kingstonian 0; Grays 5 Chesham 0, Hitchin 0 Dulwich 1, Marlow 3 Molesey 0, Sutton United 3 Hayes 3; Yeading 1 Wokingham 1.
KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: League Cup: Semi-final, second leg: Llansantffraid 1 Holywell 0.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Bristol City 2 Brighton 1; Chelsea 3 Crystal Palace 0; Tottenham 1 Swindon 1.
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Coventry 0 Everton 0, Derby 2 Tranmere 1, Notts County 0 Nottm Forest 2, Rotherham 0 Manchester Utd 3. Second division: Manchester City 1 Blackpool 0; Sheffield Wed 3 Huddersfield 0
CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Bradford Park Avenue 3 Chadderton 1; Eastwood Hanley 4 Nantwich 0
ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: East Ham 1 Basildon 1.
FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Ferryhill 0 Tow Law 5, RTM Newcastle 5 Hebburn 1.
HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Banbury 0 North Leigh 2. First division: Rayners Lane 6 Yarnton 0
INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Boldmere St Michaels 2 West Midlands Police 0, Pershore 1 Stapenhill 2, Rocester 0 Shepshed D 2.
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Aerostructures 2 Portsmouth RN 1, Thatcham 2 BAT 1
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Denaby 2 Sheffield 1; Hucknall 0 Hallam 3, North Ferriby 3 Maltby MW 0.
OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Senior first division: Old Tenisonians 1 Old Suttonians 4. Senior third division: Old Salvatorians 2 Phoenix 4
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Beckenham 0 Folkestone Invicta 3, Darenth Heathside 0 Tunbridge Wells 2; Deal 1 Herne Bay 1, Furness 2 Slade Green 0; Thamesmead 2 Corinthian 2.

HOCKEY

GENOA: Junior European Cup qualifying tournament: Gibraltar 1, Portugal 0; Italy 1, Scotland 0; England 3, Switzerland 0
Standings (after four matches): 1 England, 8pts, 2 Italy 8; 3, Scotland 4, 4, Portugal 4, 5, Gibraltar 2; 6, Switzerland 0. England and Italy qualify

ICE HOCKEY

SWEDEN: World championship: Quarter-finals: Pool A: Czech Republic 2 Russia 0
NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Philadelphia 2 New York Islanders 0; Florida 4 New York Rangers 3, Washington 7 Pittsburgh 2; Los Angeles 2 Winnipeg 1

MOTOR RALLYING

TOUR OF CORSICA: Leading places after seven stages: 1, B Thiry (Bel) Ford Escort 1hr 26min 58sec; 2, F Delecour (Fr) Ford Escort at 3sec; 3, D Auriol (Fr) Toyota Celica at 27; 4 A Aghini (It) Mitsubishi Lancer at 40; 5, P Liatti (It) Subaru Impreza at 44; 6, C McRae (GB) Subaru Impreza at 45; 7, A Schwarz (Ger) Toyota Celica at 48; 8, C Sainz (Sp) Subaru Impreza at 49; 9, J Kankkunen (Fin) Toyota Celica at 52; 10, P Bernardini (Fr) Ford Escort at 1min 8sec
LONDON TO MEXICO RALLY (Leading positions at the end of eleventh day, Potosi to La Paz): 1, H Mikkola (Fin) and G Palm (Swe) Ford Escort 3hr 51min 57sec; 2, R Dunkerton and H Mansson (Aus) Datsun 240Z 3.58.51; 3, R Martin-Hurst (GB) and W Koningsveld (Holl) Ford Escort 4:05:13. 4, J Balazs and A Jojart (Hun) Porsche 911 4:12.38; 5, D Rainsford and B Rainsford (Aus) Ford Mustang 4:16:05; 6, T Fall and R Dixon (GB) Volvo 4.23.07; 7, B Hodgson (Aus) and P McClintock (Ire) Ford Falcon 4.24.19, 8, J Leppard and N Starkey (GB) Peugot 504 4:29 02; 9, S Illman (SA) and F Stangl (Austria) Porsche 911 4.28:13; 10, J Pomlinger and W Polassnig (Austria) Ford Escort 4.30:52

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance: 23pts £96,124.95, 22 £471.30, 21 £32.20, 20 £5.25, 19 £1.50. Four draws: £15.20. Ten homes (paid on nine homes): £503.25. Five aways: £1.00.
VERNONS: Treble chance: 23pts £27,428.10, 22 £182.10, 21 £17.50, 20 £3.60. Ten homes (paid on nine): £331.80. Five aways void. Stakes may be used in payment of client's next entries.
ZETTERS: Treble chance: 23pts £4,761.40, 22 £29.50, 21 £2.55, 20 £0.35. Four draws (nothing barred): £18.40. Four super homes: £264.40. Four aways: £0.60. Dividends to 20p units. Lucky numbers: 12 35 11 1 16 28.

REAL TENNIS

HOLYPORT: British professional championship: First round: F Wills bt A Lyons 4-6, 6-4, 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, S Brockenshaw bt M Ryan 4-6, 4-6, 6-0, 6-4, 6-5; N Wood bt M Eadie 6-1, 6-5, 6-3; K King bt M Seigneur 6-4, 6-3, 6-2; A Phillips bt A Davis 6-1, 3-6, 6-1, 6-0; R Gunn bt K Ludekens 4-6, 6-1, 6-3; K Sheldon bt D Jones 6-0, 6-1, 6-1, A Oliver bt J Beaumont 3-6, 6-1, 6-5, 6-2.
British young professionals championship: Semi-finals: R Gunn bt P Paterson 6-0, 6-2; J Beaumont bt C Swallow 6-1, 6-3.

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCHES: Madrid XV 16 (Try, Dubosco Conversion: Dubosco. Penalty goals: Dubosco (2). Dropped goal: Kovalenko) Scotland 27 (Tries: Joiner (3), Richardson, penalty try. Conversion: Shiel) Japan 34 Romania 21 (in Tokyo), New South Wales B 42 Argentina 18 (in Orange, Australia).

SNOOKER

CISK GOLD MALTA MASTERS: First round: D Roe (Eng) bt M Campbell (Scot) 4-2, A Borg (Malta) bt J Dunworth (Eng) 4-1; B Jones (Eng) bt S Camilleri (Malta) 4-1, J Higgins (Scot) bt R Webb (Malta) 4-0

TABLE TENNIS

TIANJIN, China: World championship: Men: Group B: China 3 England 1 (Chinese names first), Kong Linghua bt A Cooke 21-15, 21-10, Lu Guoliang lost to D Douglas 12-21, 21-14, 11-21; Wang Tao bt C Prean 14-21, 21-19, 21-7, Kong beat Douglas 21-17, 21-13. Group K: Scotland 3 Tahiti 0. Women: Group B: South Korea 3 England 0 (South Korean names first): Park Hae-jung bt L Lomas 21-18, 21-19; Park Kyung-ae bt A Holt 21-13, 17-21, 21-19, Park and Kim Moo-hye bt Lomas and Holt 21-16, 21-5. Taiwan 3 England 1 (Taiwanese names first). Xu Jing bt A Holt 21-14, 21-17, Chen Chiu-tan lost to L Lomas 9-21, 21-12, 20-22, Xu and Chen bt Lomas and Holt 18-21, 21-12, 22-20; Xu bt Lomas 21-17, 21-15. Group C: Yugoslavia 3 Ireland 0; Wales 3 Lebanon 0, Yugoslavia 3 Wales 0; Switzerland 3 Iceland 1. Group H: Sri Lanka 3 Scotland 2; India 3 Scotland 1

TENNIS

HAMBURG: Women's tournament: First round: B Schultz (Holl) bt E Maniokova (Russ) 6-1, 6-3. Second round: M Maleeva (Bul) bt A Dechaume-Balleret (Fr) 6-3, 6-3, B Rittner (Ger) bt A Gavaldon (Mex) 6-4, 6-0; M Hingis (Switz) bt J Novotna (Cz) 6-1, 2-6, 6-2.
MUNICH: Men's tournament: Second round: O Gross (Ger) bt R Furlan (It) 7-6, 6-4.
EDINBURGH: LTA Spring Satellite tournament (GB unless stated): Men: First round: B Larkham (Aus) bt N Jones 6-0, 6-2; L Milligan bt A Richardson 6-2, 7-5; N Baglin bt M Boulding 2-6, 6-4, 6-3; T Larkham (Aus) bt D Sanders 6-4, 6-3; B Curry (SA) bt D Ward 6-1 6-4; O Stanoichev (Bul) bt G Henderson 6-4, 6-1, M Maclagan bt J Sekulov (Aus) 6-4, 7-6; C Wall bt T Hand 7-6, 7-6.
Women: Second round: N Egorova (Russ) bt L Perkins 6-3, 6-2; P Plackova (Cz) bt K Cross 7-6, 6-2; R Mawdsley (Aus) bt H Ho (US) 6-1, 6-3; M Javer bt H Matthews 6-1, 6-3, C Habsmgg (Austria) bt M Wolf-Brandt (Swe) 7-6, 6-2; L Woodroffe bt H Salvador (Sp) 7-5, 3-6, 6-4, E Fauth (Austria) bt E Gells 6-2, 6-0.

VOLLEYBALL

OPORTO, Portugal: Spring Cup: Lithuania bt Scotland 6-15 5-15 15-11 9-15.

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PPA MEMBERS POOLS RULE AMENDMENT
WITH EFFECT FROM COMPETITION 41 (MATCHES PLAYED 13 MAY 1995) UNTIL COMPETITION 1 (MATCHES PLAYED 5 AUGUST 1995) INCLUSIVE, MEMBERS RULES ARE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:-
IN LITTLEWOODS AND ZETTERS POOLS RULE 4 AND VERNONS POOLS RULE 5 FOR '3PM' SUBSTITUTE '7AM'
TO LITTLEWOODS POOLS RULE 18 ADD (f) TO VERNONS POOLS RULE 11 ADD (i). TO ZETTERS POOLS RULE 11 ADD (d) IN EACH CASE TO READ:-
"THE CHECKING OF ALL FOOTBALL POOLS AND THE PAYMENT OF WINNINGS WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RESULTS REPORTED AND CONFIRMED BY P.A. SPORT BEFORE 09.00 B.S.T. ON THE WEDNESDAY FOLLOWING THE SATURDAY'S MATCHES"

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, Bridge Correspondent

Of the "advanced" plays in bridge, elimination play is the easiest to understand and execute. Here is a typical example:

	♠AQ10 ♥A4 ♦K83 ♣AK873	
♠7642 ♥53 ♦A4 ♣QJ942		

Contract: Five Clubs by West **Lead: Queen of hearts**

If you had to play the spades yourself, the correct technique would be to finesse the ten; if that lost to the jack, re-enter dummy and lead another spade and finesse the queen.

That way, you would go down only if North held both the king and jack of spades; you make two tricks about 75 per cent of the time. Anyone familiar with elimination play, though, will see that the contract is a certainty. Just draw trumps and "eliminate" the diamonds by playing ace and king of diamonds and ruffing the third round in dummy. That leaves this position:

	♠AQ10 ♥4 ♦— ♣73	
♠7642 ♥3 ♦— ♣4		

Now, you play a heart (known as "exiting"). If South wins the heart and pushes a spade through, you put in the ten; now, North must either lead back into your spade tenace or play a red suit. If he does the latter, you can ruff it in dummy and throw your losing spade from hand (a "ruff and discard").

Here is another example:

	♠AQ1073 ♥Q83 ♦A6 ♣AQ5	
♠KJ542 ♥J72 ♦54 ♣K63		

Contract: Four Spades by West Lead: King of diamonds

Again, you have plenty of trumps, and a suit that you would like the opponents to open. Just draw trumps, play off the three top clubs and exit with your last diamond. The defence will have to set up a trick for you in hearts, or give you a ruff and discard.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge every day in *The Times*.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess Correspondent

Adams on brink

Michael Adams, the British Grandmaster, is on the brink of the greatest success of his chess career in an international tournament.

With one round to go in Seville, the highest ranked tournament in the world this year, Adams is in the lead. In the final round, he faces Gata Kamsky, the United States Grandmaster.

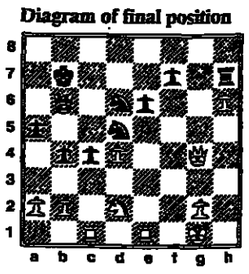
Adams broke clear of the field in the eighth round when Anatoly Karpov, the previous co-leader, lost on time in a complicated position.

White: Gata Kamsky
Black: Anatoly Karpov
Seville, May 1995

Caro-Kann Defence

1	e4	c6
2	d4	d5
3	e5	Bf5
4	Nf3	e6
5	Be2	c5
6	Be3	Nd7
7	c4	dxc4
8	0-0	a6
9	Bxc4	Ne7
10	Nc3	b5
11	Bd3	c4
12	Bc2	Rc8
13	Re1	b4
14	Ne4	Nd5
15	Bg5	Qa5
16	Nh4	Bxe4
17	Bxe4	g6
18	Qg4	Bg7
19	f4	Qb6
20	Kh1	Qc6
21	f5	N7b6
22	Bf6	Bxf6
23	exf6	Kd8
24	fxg6	hxg6
25	Bxg6	Rc7
26	Be4	Kc8
27	Nf3	Nxf6
28	Qg7	Nxe4
29	Qxh8+	Kb7
30	Qh4	Nd6
31	Rac1	a5
32	Qg5	Nd5
33	h4	Rc8
34	h5	Rh8
35	Kg1	Rh7
36	h6	Qc7
37	Nd2	Qb6
38	Qg4	Black lost on time

Diagram of final position



In the situation where Black lost on time, Karpov had survived the first wave of White's attack, but White's material advantage of rook for knight would, in any case, have sufficed for ultimate victory.

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess every day in *The Times*.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

DICKENSIANS
TOMMY TRADDLES
a. A Pickwickian
b. Friend of David Copperfield
c. The Cheeryble residence

JESSE HEXAM
a. A fisher of men
b. A feather-headed girl
c. A crossing-sweeper

CHAPMAN & HALL
a. A theatrical double act
b. A Parliamentary guidebook
c. Publishers

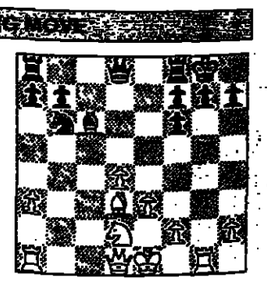
MISS HAVISHAM
a. A weird recluse
b. A lion-huntress
c. A feather-headed milliner

Answers: page 46

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Palatnik — Geller, Soviet Union, 1980. Here, White made use of the open g-file to deliver a surprisingly quick checkmate. Can you see how he continued?



Solution: page 46

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Celtic Swing gives painful reminder of wellbeing

By Richard Evans, Racing Correspondent

THE Angmering stables of Lady Anne Herries, home of Celtic Swing, kicked into gear in spectacular style yesterday but not everybody at the picturesque Sussex yard was leaping for joy last night.

While Jawaal produced a telling turn of foot inside the final furlong to win the 25-runner Insulpak Victoria Cup at Ascot, the 62-year-old lad who looks after Celtic Swing was hobbling around in considerable pain, having been hit on the knee by the odds-on favourite for the Madagans 2,000 Guineas.

Bob Mason was taken to hospital after Celtic Swing lashed out while being washed down yesterday morning after a canter and walk through the woods. "Bob went to hospital for an X-ray but he is all right. Celtic Swing has done it before but has never caught Bob," Lady Herries reported.

Celtic Swing, a best priced 11-8 on with William Hill, will probably have a blow-out over four furlongs today in preparation for the colts' classic on Saturday and Lady Anne was as relaxed as any trainer could be as the sunshine beamed down on Newmarket's Rowley Mile and threatened to produce firmish ground.

"It was fast ground when Celtic Swing won here at Ascot. Apart from running down into the Dip at Newmarket, where I would not want it to be too firm, he should be all right as they come home uphill. I don't think anybody wants firm ground. We had someone walk the course yesterday and it was good ground. As long as it is fair for everybody, that is the main thing," she said after Jawaal's neck victory over Lord Huntingdon's Royal Hill.

The seven-furlong trip posed by the Victoria Cup was arguably on the sharp side for Jawaal, whose two victories last year, at Newmarket and Ascot, came over a mile. However, with a strong pace guaranteed in such a big field, John Reid always had the five-year-old handy before striking the front inside the distance. "The ground was firm enough for him; he wouldn't want it any firmer. The Royal Hunt Cup is a definite possibility now," the trainer said.

On the Guineas front, Corals yesterday extended Diffident to 7-1 while shortening Pennekamp, an each-way "thieves' bet" only a few days ago, to 3-1. "We have been the biggest price about Diffident but still cannot lay him. We are trying to get the public to decide on anything apart from the front two," Rob Hartnett, the Corals spokesman, said.

John Dunlop went to Ascot yesterday hoping to hear from Willie Carson whether he would ride Aqaarid — or the Dick Hern-trained Harayir — in the Madagans 1,000 Guineas on Sunday. However, the diminutive Scottish-born jockey is leaving his decision until the last possible moment and, by all accounts, is finding it one of the toughest choices in a long and distinguished career.

On the one hand, he acknowledges that Harayir probably boasts the best public form and, theoretically, has a few pounds in hand on Dunlop's filly. But he is the first to sing the praises of Aqaarid's racing style and believes there is far better to come from the daughter of Nashwan.

Mark Johnston has been forced to endure a miserable start to this season, because of coughing affecting most of his Middleham string. However, he had every reason to believe the worst may be over after Double Trigger fought back gamely to land the Insulpak Sagaro Stakes and Unconditional Love, who booked her place for the Queen Mary Stakes, burst clear to win the Garter Conditions Stakes by a long-looking four lengths.

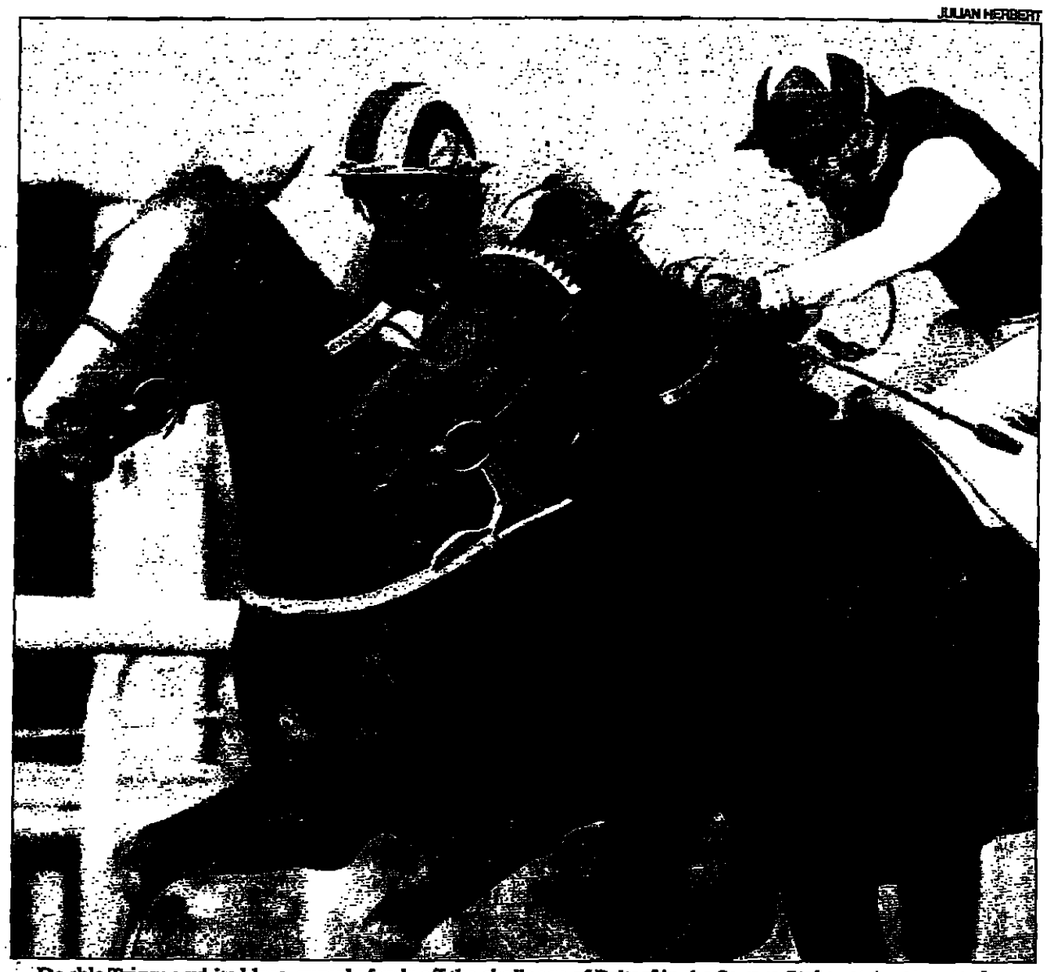
"It's nice for it to come right when it counts. It is another example which shows we are beginning to see light at the end of the tunnel," Johnston said.

Double Trigger has long been the apple of Johnston's eye and, provided last season's Italian St Leger winner earns sufficient prize-money to pay for the considerable transport costs, he is pencilled in to go for the Melbourne Cup in November. "That is half the travel fee paid for. Now he will go for the Ascot Gold Cup; that would take care of it nicely."

Nap: SLIVOVITZ
(5.00 Salisbury)
Next best: Mighty Squaw
(5.30 Salisbury)

Richard Evans was in excellent form at Ascot yesterday. He napped Jawaal (7-1) and coupled it with Double Trigger (9-2) for a 43-1 double.

JULIAN HERBERT



Double Trigger, white blaze, gamely fends off the challenge of Poltarf in the Sagaro Stakes at Ascot yesterday

THUNDERER
2.00 Artful Dane
2.30 Soaking
3.00 Star Talent
3.30 Mr Browning
4.00 Hujjab
4.30 PRECEDE (nap)
5.00 Ahjay
5.30 Mighty Squaw

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.00 Kayrawan.

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,6,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 ..... B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — stopped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.00 MORRISTON MAIDEN STAKES
(Div I: 3-Y-O: £4,078: 1m) (12 runners)

101	(5)		ARONYM (J Dunlop) J Dunlop 9-0	B Thomson	–
102	(12)	325-	ARTFUL DANE 211 (S Lanzagan) M Heaton-Ellis 9-0	Stephen Davies	89
103	(2)	0	AUTUMN COVER 8 (G Alexander) R Flower 9-0	J D Smith (5)	–
104	(9)	0-	BEST OF BOLD 217 (Cheveley Park Stud) R Hannon 9-0	L Dettori	79
105	(9)	0-0	MERIT 12 (HRH Prince Fahd Salman) P Cole 9-0	T Quinn	85
106	(3)		ARABRIDE (Blandford Thoroughbreds) J Toller 8-9	W Carson	–
107	(11)		CROWN OF SHEBA (Mons Al Maktoum) E Dunlop 8-9	Paul Eddery	–
108	(8)		EDUASION (K Higson) G L Moore 8-9	B Rouse	–
109	(1)		HAZEL (Miss L Dobson) Miss G Kelleway 8-9	R Cochrane	–
110	(7)	0	RETURN TO BRIGHTON 10 (D Morris) P Clarke 8-9	Pat Eddery	–
111	(4)	0-0	SURGIVA 15 (Lord Portman) J Arnold 8-9	C Rutter	–
112	(10)	0-	YARN 245 (D Shepherd) M Channon 8-9	R Hughes	70

BETTING: 5-2 Best Of Bold, 7-2 Artful Dane, 6-1 Anonym, 7-1 Merit, 8-1 Arabride, 10-1 Yarn, 14-1 others.

1994: WILLIAM TELL 8-0 T Sprake (3-1 fav) R Johnson Houghton 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

ARTFUL DANE best effort last term 2f 2nd of 9 to Mysett in Goodwood maiden (6f, good). AUTUMN COVER 20l 15th of 16 to Sulu in Kempton maiden (7f, good). BEST OF BOLD 13l 12th of 15 to Painter's Row in Nursemaid maiden (7f, good to firm) MERIT 23l 20th of 24 to Lyrilos in Newbury maiden (1m, good). RETURN TO BRIGHTON 24l last of 10 to Stone Ridge in Brighton maiden (1m, good to firm). SURGIVA 40l 14th of 15 to Al Salsaa in Pontefract maiden (1m 2f, firm). YARN 9l 7th of 15 to Lila in maiden here (7f, good). Selection: ARTFUL DANE

2.30 ALMOND APPRENTICE HANDICAP
(£2,389: 6f 212yd) (20 runners)

201	(10)	21213/0	INDEFENCE 8 (D,F,S) (Indel Ltd) M Channon 4-10-0	D Sweeney (7)	–
202	(16)	1006-20	SOAKING 13 (D,F,S) (K Higson) G L Moore 5-9-6	L Suthern	90
203	(13)	0-56310	GREATEST 38 (D,F,S) (Investiba Ltd) R Akehurst 4-8-13	R Moogan (5)	88
204	(6)	3206-04	FIRJAN 33 (D,F,S) (Lambourn Valley Racing) A Foster 8-8-12	M Henry	90
205	(7)	000-000	IT'S SO EASY 86 (D,S) (B G Racing Ltd) A James 4-8-11	Marnie Dwyer	88
206	(12)	435000-	VANBOROUGH LAD 218 (S,S) (A Galbraith) M Bolton 6-8-11	S Mitchell	86
207	(14)	50500-0	MUTINIQUE 10 (CD,S) (Mrs M Bell) B Pearce 4-8-11	T Field (7)	97
208	(11)	20-1536	KING PARROT 45 (S) (Lord Huntingdon) Lord Huntingdon 7-8-9	Alexis Cook (5)	91
209	(2)	6104-00	COURTING MEMMARKET 83 (C,D,F,S) Mrs A Knight 7-8-9	Sarah Thompson	88
210	(4)	031-0	SHOT THE SHERIFF 17 (S) (M Arbib) P Cole 3-8-8	David O'Neill (7)	84
211	(5)	46030-0	ALLAHRAKHA 172 (Aprilla Excelsior Racing) D R Tucker 4-8-6	–	98
212	(19)	20605-0	LITTLE HOOLIGAN 10 (V,S) (Persian War Partnership) J Akehurst 4-8-5	S Lanigan	89
213	(8)	005-10	DOUBLE RUSH 17 (D,6) (T Mursky) T Mills 3-8-4	D Toole (3)	89
214	(18)	0656-00	SCHARNHORST 23 (M Prist) S Dow 3-8-3	A Daly (5)	89
215	(17)	6000-30	EARLY STAR 101 (D,S) (K Bishop) K Bishop 6-8-2	Dane O'Neill	90
216	(3)	3500-09	GLEN MILLER 7 (V,D,F) (M Tabet) J Payne 5-8-1	Nicola Howarth	–
217	(15)	50060-2	NAUTICAL JEWEL 8 (Sporting Partners) M Usher 3-8-0	C Adamson	93
218	(1)	5200000	RAGAZZO 3 (B,D,6) (S Pedersen) K Cunningham-Brown 5-7-13	J Wildmon (5)	83
219	(20)	0100-00	SHAYNES OGMAIN 8 (B,D,6) (Mrs P Garner) R Flower 4-7-11	R Waterfield (3)	90
220	(9)	022436	PAIR OF JACKS 7J (6) (T Ronan) D Wilson 5-7-9	Rachael Moody (7)	93

BETTING: 6-1 Greatest, 7-1 Nautical Jewel, 8-1 King Parrot, 10-1 Soaking, Double Rush, 12-1 others.

1994: MAKE THE BREAK 3-8-9 D O'Neill (11-2) R Hannon 20 ran

FORM FOCUS

SOAKING best recent effort head 2nd of 8 to Gull Shaadi in claimer at Lingfield (AW, 7f) on penultimate start. GREATEST best Mr Nevermind short-head in 9-runner claimer at Lingfield (AW, 7f). FIRJAN 111l/4 4th of 17 to Northern Celadon in claimer at Warwick (1m, good to soft). VANBOROUGH LAD 7½l 11th of 18 to Mapenga in handicap here (1m, good). KING PARROT 9l 5th of 14 to Whitelock Quest in apprentice jockeys' handicap at Southwell (AW, 1m). DOUBLE RUSH 11l 7th of 19 to Busy Banana in handicap at Nottingham (1m, good to firm) with SHOT THE SHERIFF (2lb better off) 14l 12th. EARLY STAR 21l 7th of 13 to Hawkeyes in handicap at Southwell (AW, 1m). NAUTICAL JEWEL head 2nd of 15 to Titanium Honda in maiden handicap at Southwell (AW, 7f). PAIR OF JACKS 29l 6th of 15 to Shilani's Son in claimer at Brighton (6f, good). Selection: VANBOROUGH LAD

3.00 CHEVIOT CONDITIONS STAKES
(£5,141: 6f) (9 runners)

301	(4)	0504-15	STAR TALENT 5 (C,D,6,S) (J Smith) D Elsworth 4-10-0	A Procter (5)	89
302	(1)	0001-00	HOW'S YER FATHER 5 (CD,F,6,S) (Lady Fenn) R Hodges 9-9-13	R Cochrane	81
303	(7)	11655-0	AL NUFOOTH 17 (D,E,F) (Hamdan Al Maktoum) W Hern 3-9-3	J Reid	92
304	(8)	1315-3	RIRE DOME 17 (S) (Alahmood Al-Shuaibi) T Mills 3-9-3	Paul Eddery	88
305	(3)	21422-0	ANNIVERSARYPRESENT 40 (B,F) (D Barker) G Lewis 3-8-13	Pat Eddery	86
306	(9)	112206-	SHAMANIC 279 (F,S) (R Russell) R Hannon 3-8-13	Pat Eddery	86
307	(5)	1-6	KAYRAWAN 17 (D,F) (Hamdan Al Maktoum) H Thomson Jones 3-8-11	R Hills	90
308	(6)	00-	YOUNG SENSATION 317 (J Ward) B Pearce 3-8-7	Stephen Davies	–
309	(2)	1-	FAR FETCHED 276 (D,6) (Lord Weinstock) Lord Huntingdon 3-8-6	L Dettori	73

BETTING: 3-1 Star Talent, 7-2 Fire Dome, 5-1 Far Fetched, 6-1 Al Nuloth, Kayrawan, 7-1 others.

1994: AGWA 5-10-0 J Quinn (7-4 fav) R O'Sullivan 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

STAR TALENT 9¼l 5th of 8 to Young Ern in Rated race at Leicester (7f, good to firm). HOW'S YER FATHER 6½l 9th of 15 to The Old Chapel in handicap at Leicester (6f, good to firm). FIRE DOME 21¼l 3rd of 9 to Sergeyev in conditions race at Kempton (6f, good to firm) with KAYRAWAN 29½l 6th and AL NUFOOTH (2lb worse off) 15½l 8th. ANNIVERSARYPRESENT 7½l 8th of 10 to Juyush in conditions stakes at Doncaster (1m, good to firm). SHAMANIC 51½l 8th of 7 to Rich Magic in group III Molecomb Stakes at Goodwood (5f, firm). YOUNG SENSATION 42l last of 10 to Greenwich Agate in seller at Brighton (7f, firm). FAR FETCHED best Prime Match Lloyd in 19-runner maiden at Ripon (6f, good). Selection: SHAMANIC

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Mrs A Knight	4	19	21.1	Dane O'Neill	3	7	42.9
D Wilson	5	49	18.4	Pat Eddery	20	108	18.5
B Hanbury	3	19	15.8	J Weaver	5	28	17.9
P Cole	11	70	15.7	L Dettori	17	103	16.5
Lord Huntingdon	8	54	14.8	J Reid	21	139	15.1
R Hannon	40	273	14.7	D Harrison	7	48	14.6

3.30 GRAMPIAN HANDICAP
(£3,470: 1m 4f) (19 runners)

401	(4)	003-013	CREDIT SQUEEZE 10 (D,F,6) (R Naylor) R Johnson Houghton 5-10-0	J Quinn	96
402	(11)	000-424	SURPRISE GUEST 107 (D,F,6,S) A James 4-9-12	J Weaver	94
403	(5)	05240-0	RISING SPRAY 15 (J Heritage) C Horgan 4-9-9	Paul Eddery	95
404	(14)	008-001	BOOKCASE 9 (D,F,6,S) (Adept Ltd) D Elsworth 8-9-5 (5ex)	J Williams	92
405	(10)	05600-U	MR DEVIOUS 10 (D,F,6,S) (R Devlin) P Hobbs 4-9-3	J Reid	95
406	(8)	53415-0	SIGHT'N SOUND 13 (S) (De So Hasty Partnership) D Elsworth 4-9-3	R Cochrane	95
407	(6)	1-16650	BEAUTETE 15 (F,S) (D Chrstian) S Dow 4-9-2	Pat Eddery	93
408	(3)	0-45023	MR BROWNING 9 (B) (Mrs M O'Shea) R Akehurst 4-8-13	T Quinn	95
409	(17)	520-610	FATHER DAN 40 (F,6) (WessexRacing Club) Miss G Kelloway 5-8-8	S Whitworth	91
410	(13)	600030-	JOYS FIRST 22J (Miss J Reeve) H Collingridge 4-8-6	M Rimmer	95
411	(9)	000-4	MUTAZZ 10 (Hamdan Al Maktoum) W Hern 3-8-5	W Carson	86
412	(16)	1/06410-	QUEENS CONTRACTOR 29J (B,D,F,S) (L Bulley) S Mellor 5-8-4	A Daly (7)	84
413	(15)	251535-	ROCQUAINE BAY 205 (CD,F) (D Woollard) M Bolton 8-8-4	A McGlone	94
414	(7)	30000-0	PIP'S DREAM 63 (P Axon) M Ryan 4-8-3	A Clark	95
415	(2)	6000/00-	GENTLEMAN SID 106J (Miss J Collison) P Murphy 5-7-13	N Adams	–
416	(18)	0000-	PRINCESSE ABIGAIL 250 (Miss V Markowski) R Flower 4-7-11	A Tucker	–
417	(1)	50-00	KINGSFOLD FOUNTAIN 49 (G Hye) M Haynes 4-7-8	D Toole (7)	–
418	(19)	000-5	SHARE THE SECRET 28 (Diomed Racing) B Hanbury 3-7-7	Martin Dwyer (7)	89
419	(12)	00-0	TENNYSON BAY 24 (Miss V Markowski) R Flower 3-7-7	S Lanigan (7)	–

Long handicap: Share The Secret 7-4, Tennyson Bay 6-8.

BETTING: 5-1 Mr Browning, 7-1 Bookcase, 8-1 Father Dan, Credit Squeeze, 10-1 Rocquaine Bay, Beautete, 14-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

CREDIT SQUEEZE 2½l 3rd of 23 to Captain Marmalade in lady riders' handicap at Nottingham (1m 2f, good) with MR DEVIOUS unseated rider 5f out. BOOKCASE best Bag of Trifles 3½l in handicap at Folkestone (1m 4f, good to firm) with MR BROWNING (4lb better off) neck 3rd. SIGHT'N SOUND best effort last term best Mousterlin's Lad in handicap at Bath (1m 5f, good). BEAUTETE 16l 10th of 20 to Pashian Springs in handicap at Newmarket (1m 4f, good to firm) with RISING SPRAY (11lb better off) 3l 14th. FATHER DAN best Captain Marmalade 2l in conditions race at Lingfield (AW, 1m 2f) on penultimate start. MUTAZZ 6½l 4th of 7 to Nigel's Lad in conditions race at Nottingham (1m 2f, good). QUEENS CONTRACTOR best Atlantic Way 9l in handicap at Southwell (AW, 1m 4f) on penultimate start. ROCQUAINE BAY 21½l 3rd of 11 to Exhibit Air in handicap at Brighton (1m 4f, firm). Selection: CREDIT SQUEEZE

4.00 LAUDERDALE FILLIES HANDICAP
(£4,013: 1m) (11 runners)

501	(11)	621-010	MISTY SILKS 12 (D,6,S) (P Axon) M Ryan 5-9-13	A Clark	96
502	(6)	36332-3	HILLIAB 14 (Hamdan Al Maktoum) J Dunlop 3-9-3	W Carson	90
503	(7)	041006-	PHYLIAN 253 (F) (D Shellabs) S Williams 4-9-1	Pat Eddery	94
504	(4)	015-0	SANTA FAN 13 (F) (A Elliot) P Cole 3-8-9	T Quinn	90
505	(3)	0100-	LIMBER 238 (C,S) (Lord Carnarvon) Lord Huntingdon 3-8-13	L Dettori	88
506	(5)	000-300	BELLEMINETTE 35 (D,F,6) (Mrs J Mullaloy) D Hayde Jones 4-8-6	J Reid	93
507	(1)	02-8	ANNA-JANE 15 (P Locke) R Hannon 3-8-3	R Hills	85
508	(8)	60002-0	AUDREY GRACE 10 (P Dean) B Meehan 4-8-2	D Harrison	92
509	(10)	000044-	PEVERIL PRINCESS 317 (Mrs E Cleary) G Balding 4-7-9	N Adams	85
510	(2)	015034-	ANY ONE LINE 251 (S) (Persian War Partnership) J Akehurst 3-7-7	J Quinn	94
511	(9)	0000-40	SHAMUKE 19 (Bonham Auction) J Moore 3-7-7	Martin Dwyer (7)	89

Long handicap: Any One Line 7-6, Shamuke 7-0.

BETTING: 7-4 Hujjab, 9-2 Santa Fan, 5-1 Limber, 8-1 Misty Silks, Anna-Jane, 12-1 others.

1994: SEA BARON 4-8-10 J Quinn (11-1) M Blanshard 18 ran

FORM FOCUS

MISTY SILKS best Celtic Calliah 4l in 10-runner handicap at Leicester (1m, soft) on penultimate start. Sep 1994, with BELLEMINETTE (4lb better off) 5¼l 5th. HILLIAB 14½l 3rd of 7 to Bessarabian in handicap at Ripon (1m, good to firm). PHYLIAN about 8½l 6th of 7 to Peruvian Pride in conditions race at Redcar (1m 2f, good to firm). SANTA FAN 9½l 11th of 14 to Crumpton Hill in handicap at Newbury (1m, good to firm). LIMBER best effort last term best Ocha 2½l in 9-runner auction maiden here (6f, good to soft). ANY ONE LINE 31¼l 3rd of 8 to Sobeskyn in seller at Yarmouth (7f, good) on penultimate start. SHAMUKE 18½l 4th of 8 to Rassed in auction maiden at Brighton (1m 2f, good) on penultimate start. Selection: HILLIAB

4.30 PENTLAND CONDITIONS STAKES
(3-Y-O: £4,967: 1m 1f 209yd) (6 runners)

601	(5)	0201-5	STEFFELO 12 (D,6) (R Hannon) R Hannon 9-2	L Dettori	90
602	(6)	1332-4	DAHIK 19 (F) (Hamdan Al Maktoum) W Hern 9-0	W Carson	92
603	(3)	1242-	PRECEDE 193 (S) (A Speelman) P Cole 9-0	T Quinn	96
604	(2)	01-	PESCE D'APRILE 186 (S) (J Dunlop) J Dunlop 8-11	B Thomson	–
605	(4)	12-0	SPOUT 18 (S) (Lady Rothschild) R Charlton 8-9	Pat Eddery	89
606	(1)	0	EN VACANCES 12 (Lambourn Valley Racing) A Foster 8-2	D Harrison	71

BETTING: 6-4 Precede, 7-2 Spout, 4-1 Dahik, 5-1 Steffelo, 6-1 Pesce D'Aprile, 33-1 En Vacances.

1994: WISHING 9-0 W Newnes (4-1) R Hannon 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

STEFFELO 6¼l 5th of 8 to Pasidonea in conditions race at Newbury (1m 3f, good). DAHIK 5l 4th of 10 to Two O'Clock Jump in listed race at Kempton (1m, good to firm). PRECEDE 16l 2nd of 9 to Golden Glenstal in group II Gran Criterium at San Siro (1m, heavy). PRESCE D'APRILE beat Artemesia 5l in 13-runner maiden at Caparvello (1m, good to soft). SPOUT 11l 10th of 13 to Sukiya in listed race at Kempton (1m, good to firm). EN VACANCES 18l 14th of 24 to Lyrilos in maiden at Newbury (1m, good). Selection: PRECEDE (nap)

5.00 SUTHERLAND HANDICAP
(£3,626: 6f) (18 runners)

1	(17)	25465-0	FACE THE FUTURE 8 (D,6) (Four Seasons Racing) L Holt 6-9-13	J Reid	84
2	(4)	4-00000	FRIENDLY BRAVE 10 (B,S) (T Mills) T Mills 5-9-11	J Weaver	88
3	(6)	231050-	SLIVOVITZ 193 (B,CD,F,S) (Racing Club) M Heaton-Ellis 5-9-10	Stephen Davies	87
4	(12)	124000-	THATCHERELLA 199 (F,S) (J Whitbread) D Chappell 4-9-7	B Thomson	89
5	(14)	00-0634	GREAT HALL 25 (CD,F,S) (Miss M Prizer) P Cundell 5-9-6	W Newnes	91
6	(3)	5343321	DANIALB 7 (D,F,S) (Jack Brown Ltd) D Haydn Jones 5-9-3 (5ex)	T Quinn	98
7	(13)	602800-	PERFECT BRAVE 187 (Oh So Brave Partnership) D Elsworth 4-9-2	J Williams	87
8	(9)	0000-24	GREY CHARMER 17 (CD,F,6,S) (Mrs G Eastbod) C Jones 6-8-1	S Whitworth	93
9	(10)	030300-	MISLEMANI 135 (Mrs P Cann) A Newcombe 5-8-13	D Griffiths (5)	88
10	(16)	145602	WORDS OF WISDOM 5 (6) (M Morrison) C Cyzer 5-8-10	Pat Eddery	95
11	(8)	05-6000	HALBERT 10 (Miss B Coyle) M Channon 6-8-7	D Sweeney (7)	80
12	(15)	060803	WAVERLEY STAR 28 (C,D,F,6,S) K Cunningham-Brown 10-8-6	L Dettori	85
13	(2)	200/00-2	AHJAY 6 (F) (B A T) D Wilson 5-8-0	J Quinn	91
14	(1)	0/00-0	POOR PRINTER 17 (Mrs J Akehurst) J Akehurst 4-7-12	C Rutter	–
15	(18)	05200-6	CLANCY'S EXPRESS 95 (Mrs J Cleary) G Balding 4-7-9	Martin Dwyer (7)	89
16	(11)	002-142	HALF TONE 19 (S,6) (Mrs G Tsiamassiou) R Flower 3-7-7	S Lanigan (7)	89
17	(7)	500006-	DUTY SERGEANT 286 (F,6) (W Masey P Mitchell 5-7-7	A Garth (5)	82
18	(9)	000	CROCODILE ROCK 72 (B) (Miss V Owen) M Heaton-Ellis 3-7-7	N Adams	–

Long handicap: Duty Sergeant 7-6, Crocodile Rock 8-7.

BETTING: 6-1 Dawalib, 7-1 Ahjay, 8-1 Face The Future, Words Of Wisdom, 10-1 others.

1994: SLIVOVITZ 4-8-3 Stephen Davies (33-1) M Heaton-Ellis 17 ran

FORM FOCUS

FACE THE FUTURE about 3¼l 5th of 27 to Heimanerror in handicap at York (7f, good to soft) on penultimate start, Oct 1994. SLIVOVITZ 4l 8th of 20 to How's Yer Father in handicap at Chepstow (6f, good). THATCHERELLA 6½l 13th of 25 to Admirals Realm in conditions race at Nottingham (5f, good to firm). GREAT HALL 1½l 2nd of 11 to Sandmoor Denise in handicap at Leicester (7f, soft) on penultimate start. DAWALIB best Aquado 2l in 20-runner handicap at Warwick (7f, good to firm). PERFECT BRAVE 1½l 2nd of 13 to Arc Lamp in apprentice jockeys' handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 6f) with MISLEMANI 10½l 9th. GREY CHARMER 9¼l 2nd of 19 to Casows Heart in handicap at Warwick (5f, good to soft) on penultimate start. AHJAY 16l 2nd of 17 to Teetotaller in handicap at Kempton (6f, good) with FACE THE FUTURE (2lb better off) 4l 11th. Selection: DAWALIB

5.30 MORRISTON MAIDEN STAKES
(Div II: 3-Y-O: £4,045: 1m) (11 runners)

1	(11)	00-	BORN TO PLEASE 181 (The Pendley Optimists) P Harris 9-0	Paul Eddery	–
2	(5)	0	EDAN HEIGHTS 17 (T Mursky) S Dow 9-0	B Thomson	79
3	(8)	0	IRONIC 17 (Lady Tisdall) R Hannon 9-0	Pat Eddery	–
4	(1)	00-	JUST FOR A REASON 109 (V Kilsunny) D Murray Smith 9-0	R Palmer (5)	–
5	(7)	0	RUMPELSTILTSKIN 17 (K Cobb) M Meade 9-0	C Tizzi (7)	90
6	(2)	40-	SUVALU 257 (M Arbib) P Cole 9-0	T Quinn	98
7	(10)	504-	AZORHAAR 243 (Hamdan Al Maktoum) J Dunlop 8-9	W Carson	91
8	(3)		BROCKTON LIGHT (Mrs D La Trobe) M Channon 8-9	R Hughes	–
9	(4)		MARY'S WAY (Mrs A Chandler) R Charlton 8-9	J Weaver	–
10	(6)	5	MIGHTY SQUAW 13 (Cavendish Racing Ltd) Miss G Kelloway 8-9	R Cochrane	69
11	(9)	300503-	VICTORIA'S SECRET 198 (Mrs V Tuckerman) D Elsworth 8-9	W Newnes	90

BETTING: 5-2 Saqab, 3-1 Azzihaar, 6-1 Victoria's Secret, 7-1 Mary's Way, 8-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS

EDAN HEIGHTS 9l 8th of 12 to Fawl in Kempton maiden (7f, good to firm) with IRONIC short-head 9th. RUMPELSTILTSKIN 13l 9th of 12 to Akbar in Kempton maiden (7f, good to firm). SUVALU 17l 8th of 11 to Moments Of Fortune in maiden here (6f, good to firm). AZORHAAR 5l 4th of 20 to Deceive in Kempton maiden (6f, good). MIGHTY SQUAW about 6l 5th of 19 to Tamlish in Newbury maiden (7f, good to firm). VICTORIA'S SECRET two short-heads 3rd of 19 to Queen's Ransom in Chepstow maiden (7f, good). Selection: AZORHAAR

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Irish absentee

THE Curragh trainer John Oxx has decided not to run Ridgewood Pearl in Sunday's Madagans 1,000 Guineas as he considered the ground at Newmarket was too fast for his filly. Oxx said: "Her next run will be in the Irish equivalent at the Curragh later this month."

Ascot

Going: good to firm

2.30 (1m) 1, A La Carte (J Reid, 10-1); 2, Tineshaan (11-2); 3, Phanom Gold (7-2 fav). 10 ran. 1¾l, ¾l, J Dunlop. Tote: £9.20, £2.30, £2.40, £1.60: DF: £41.20. Trio: £74.20. CSF: £60.37.

3.05 (2m 45yd) 1, Double Trigger (J Weaver, 9-2 ji-fav); 2, Poltarf (9-2 ji-fav); 3, Silence In Court (5-1). Further Flight 9-2 ji-fav. 9 ran. Hd, 2l. M Johnston. Tote: £5.40; £1.70, £1.60, £1.60. DF: £11.00. Trio: £18.60. CSF: £22.51.

3.40 (7f) 1, Jawaal (J Reid, 7-1 fav; Richard Evans's nap); 2, Royal Hill (14-1); 3, Top Banana (16-1); 4, Jolto (33-1). 25 ran, Nk, 3l. Lady Herries. Tote: £7.40; £2.40, £2.40, £3.70, £5.90. DF: £44.90. Trio: £1,202.30. CSF: £94.41. Tricast: £1,411.60.

4.10 (6f) 1, Unconditional Love (D Holland, 5-1); 2, World Premier (4-1); 3, Cabochargo Strike (4-1). My Melody Parkes 15-8 fav. 7 ran. 4l, hd. M Johnston. Tote: £4.10; £1.70, £3.00. DF: £9.90. CSF: £21.66.

4.40 (1m) 1, Calling Collect (Pat Eddery, 3-1); 2, Airport (8-13 fav); 3, Risk Master (4-1). 3 ran. ¾l, 5l. L Cumani. Tote: £3.70. DF: £1.70. CSF: £4.82.

5.15 (1m) 1, Deevee (P Robinson, 20-1); 2, Sefton (33-1); 3, Tregaron (16-1); 4, Pistol (16-1). Daytona Beach 7-2 fav. 25 ran. 1l, nk. C Benstead. Tote: £36.40; £6.10, £9.20, £5.40, £3.80. DF: £146.70. Trio: £2,277.90 (part won; pool of £2,021.29 carried forward to 5.00 at Salisbury today). CSF: £546.69. Tricast: £9,319.13.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £41,641.71 carried forward to Salisbury today).

Placepot: £3,221.10. Quadpot: £278.30 (part won; pool of £150.44 carried forward to Salisbury today).

Exeter

Going: firm

2.15 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Kiwi Crystal (A Tory, 8-1); 2, Ho Lee Moses (20-1); 3, Storm North (5-2 fav). 9 ran. 20l, 4l. Mrs J Harrison-Barons. Tote: £11.50; £2.80, £2.30, £1.30. DF: £75.60. Trio: £118.00. CSF: £113.47.

2.50 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Cozwell Quick Step (J F Titley, 6-1); 2, Mr Playfull (14-1); 3, Springtime Affair. (20-1). Norman's Convinced 11-4 fav (pu). 11 ran. NR: Sebastopol, Shathotma. Nk, 6l. Miss H Knight. Tote: £8.30; £1.90, £2.30, £7.20. DF: £20.10. Trio: £120.10. CSF: £79.58.

3.20 (2m 6f 110yd ch) 1, Wise Approach (S McNeill, 13-8 fav); 2, Fair Brother (7-4); 3, Derrymoss (13-2). 10 ran. NR: Dancing Pimpernel. Sh hd, 20l. K Bailey. Tote: £3.60; £1.20, £1.70, £2.00. DF: £2.60. Trio: £2.60. CSF: £4.52.

3.50 (2m 3f ch) 1, Mr Entertainer (C Llewellyn, 4-1); 2, Montalino (12-1); 3, Festival Dreams (13-8 fav). 5 ran. 14l, 30l. N Gaselee. Tote: £4.30; £1.60, £3.50. DF: £15.30. CSF: £33.63.

4.20 (2m 3f hdle) 1, Sophiram (R Dunwoody, 11-2); 2, Kalaleda (25-1); 3, Wee Windy (13-2). Exclusive Edition 9-4 fav. 10 ran. 3l, 7l. M Pipe. Tote: £8.90; £2.50, £8.00, £1.40. DF: £65.40. Trio: £204.60 (part won; pool of £115.32 carried forward to 5.00 at Salisbury today). CSF: £106.22. Tricast: £830.22.

4.50 (2m 1f 110yd hdle) 1, Jason's Boy (A P McCoy, 4-1); 2, Indian Temple (9-1); 3, Sleeptite (7-1). Herbert Buchanan 5-2 fav. 8 ran. 25l, nk. J Bradley. Tote: £5.60; £1.70, £1.70. £2.20. DF: £18.20. CSF: £34.69. Tricast: £219.34. After a stewards' inquiry, the third and fourth placings were reversed. Placepot: £121.30. Quadpot: £20.10.

Tuesday's late results

Barnes tuning-up for American adventure

FROM MEL WEBB
IN MILAN

HOW time flies when you are enjoying yourself. Brian Barnes thought he was enjoying himself for too many years, sad and tragic years in which he was too often looking at his artificial world through the bottom of a glass. He reached the point of seriously contemplating suicide, but pulled back from the abyss just in time and is now looking forward to a new life in golf.

Barnes passes his fiftieth birthday in early June and is using the Italian Open, which starts at Rovedine near here today, as a part of a valedictory tour of some of his former favourite watering holes before starting a career on the US PGA Senior Tour.

Barnes was always regarded as a bit of a lad and uproarious company. It would be enormous fun at the time, but the next day his companions would be suffering severely while Barnes was, most probably, scoring his third consecutive 60-something of the tournament.

Slowly, though, even his iron-hard constitution began to send him warning signs, and after finding himself on Beachy Head one night, grimly intending to throw himself off, he took stock of his life, went on the wagon and signed the pledge.

He has not had a drink for more than two years, and if a little thicker round the middle than of yore, he retains the bright eyes of a man about to embark on a great adventure.

This tournament is the first of three in which he will be playing in the next few weeks before leaving Britain on May 26, accompanied by Bobby Stephens, an old friend, who will be his caddie and the minder Barnes still insists he needs for his first six weeks on a tour that has made millionaires out of men who, when younger, were never more than journeymen professionals.

Not that Barnes was ever a journeyman. He remains one of the supreme shot-makers in British golf, and still has the authority of a man who has won 11 European Tour events and six in other parts of the globe. He is also the only man who can claim to have beaten Jack Nicklaus twice in one day in the Ryder Cup.

He did it in on the last day of the 1975 match at Laurel Valley, and, as though to prove that neither man has never forgotten that day. Barnes has signed with the management company run by Nicklaus, to represent him in the United States.

"I think I can make a go of it in America," he said yesterday. "I'm playing in these tournaments this month because I want to be as well prepared as I can." Barnes is attempting to get an invitation to the BellSound Classic in Nashville, Tennessee on the week of his birthday. "If they don't invite me I'll try to get in on the Monday qualifying," he said. This is truly a man on a mission.

Barnes is a former winner of this tournament, as is another man who is trying to bring fresh life to a slightly flagging career. His triumph in the Italian Open in 1989 was the first of three victories for Ronan Rafferty that year when he was European No 1.

Last year, problems with his driver reduced the Ulsterman to 64th in the money list, his lowest place in a 13-year professional career. For Rafferty this week might be a new beginning. For Brian Barnes, it is the start of a long goodbye.

Thomson's challenge tests mettle of Todd

BY JENNY MACARTHUR

MARK TODD is again the rider to beat at Badminton this week. Only Mary Thomson *seems to have a chance of* denying the New Zealander his second successive win. These two are the favourites for the Mitsubishi Motors Badminton Horse Trials, which begin today in the grounds of the Duke of Beaufort's home in Avon.

The ultimate test for horse and rider and the main selection trial for the European championships in September, the event has attracted most of the sport's leading names. The 79-strong field includes Thomson's colleagues from the Great Britain team which took gold at the 1994 world championships, Karen Dixon (Too Smart and Hot Property), Charlotte Bathe (The Cool Customer) and Kristina Gifford (General Jock and Midnight Blue).



Todd: defending title

Others seeking a first Badminton win include William Fox-Pitt, on Chaka, the champions at Burghley last year, and Bruce Davidson, of the United States, winner of the *Pan-American Games in* March. He rides Eagle Lion, on which he was fourth last year, while Andrew Nicholson, of New Zealand, leader of the Land-Rover world rider rankings, is drawn first with Spinning Rhombus, his Olympic team silver medal-winner.

Although Todd, who has two Olympic gold medals to his name, has frequently started Badminton as favourite he has won only twice, first in 1980 on Southern Comfort and again last year on Horton Point, a last-minute ride. This year he rides Just an Ace, the 13-year-old, on which he was fifth in 1991 and again last year.

His second horse is Bertie Blunt, *who was bought by* Bond International for Todd to ride last year. At Burghley in September — their first four-star event together — they were in the lead after the cross country until it was discovered that Todd had missed out a flag on the roads and tracks.

"There's really nothing to choose between the two," Todd, 40, said. "Bertie Blunt has a less easy temperament for the dressage, but they are both wonderful jumpers and normally very reliable."

Thomson, sponsored by Frizzell, also has a double chance of success. She rides her 1992 winner, King William, and, as a second horse, has decided in favour of her Burghley runner-up, King Kong, the ten-year-old, rather than the horse she rode to victory at Brigstock, Star Appeal. "It almost came to picking their names out of a hat," Thomson said. "In the end, I chose King Kong because Star Appeal has become quite strong and I had visions of being run away with."

Her chance of a second success on King William, who was unbeaten in his four outings during the spring, depends on his show jumping. He is famously disdainful of this phase — last year he hit five fences — but Thomson is optimistic. "We've been practising hard and he hasn't had a fence down this year," she said.

Fox-Pitt, 26, is confident that Chaka, owned by his sponsor, Hackett, and Sir Michael Turner, is capable of completing the double of Burghley and Badminton. The 15-year-old gelding *made two mis*takes last year and finished 25th but has done little wrong since. He completed his Badminton preparations with a convincing win at Cornbury two weeks ago.

Hugh Thomas, the trials director, has placed the emphasis for the cross country on Saturday on "controlled, aggressive riding". In recognition of the skills required to succeed, the prize-money has been substantially increased. The victor on Sunday will receive £22,500, nearly twice the amount of any other event.

Dixon decides on Smart change

Jenny MacArthur reveals the Badminton dilemma of one of Britain's top riders

JULIAN HERBERT



Karen Dixon on Too Smart, one of her horses making its first appearance

Early on Saturday, before the 200,000 or so spectators swarm into Badminton Park, Karen Dixon, Britain's leading event rider, will make a fourth and final walk around the four-mile cross country course for the Mitsubishi Motors Badminton Horse Trials.

Dixon, 30, has completed Badminton ten times, finishing in the top ten on five occasions, but familiarity has not bred disrespect. "Each year you think it's going to get better, then you see someone like Mark Todd looking ashen-faced and you realise it never does," she said.

This year she has the extra worry of riding two horses appearing at Badminton for the first time: Too Smart and Hot Property. Riders never know how a horse will react to the massive crowds and particular challenge. "You have to look at Badminton through the eyes of the horse you're riding," Dixon added.

She could have given herself the luxury of riding her top horse, Get Smart, who has competed at Badminton six times and finished outside the top ten only once. But Dixon has longer term plans for the 15-year-old gelding who helped her win a team gold and individual bronze medal at the world championships last year.

"Get Smart will be my first choice for the Atlanta Olympics if I'm selected, so I'm keen not to overrun him. I didn't even enter him for Badminton because I knew if I did, and he was going well, I might be tempted to run him." Although the decision has reduced her chances of a first Badminton win, she aims to be "in the shake-up".

Too Smart, a nine-year-old she describes as a "little tiger", contributed to her second place in the Land-Rover world rider rankings last year, however, when he won at *Punchestown. He won again* at Gatcombe, where Dixon became national champion. At Burghley in September, his first four-star event, he was third.

Hot Property, a 10-year-old, was eighth at Bramham but had to withdraw from Burghley and Blenheim with foot problems. "He's a nightmare in the dressage," Dixon said, "but when he gallops and jumps I forgive him everything." She is reassured to hear that the course this year is big, galloping and less technical than in the past.

Indeed, after the Seoul Olympics, where she had a *fall in the water*, Mark Phillips was among those who criticised her riding. Dixon's reaction was typical: "They were right — it made me all the more determined to get better." It was to Phillips she turned for help, indeed, when, in 1989 she began a sponsorship by Range Rover. Gradually the careless element in her riding was replaced with the confident, secure style she displays today and which helped her win medals in The Hague last year.

She might have won individual honours before that. At the 1992 Barcelona Olympics, *in what Dixon says was the biggest disappointment of her* career, she was under team instructions to play for safety on the cross-country. "We were there and ready and not to be given the chance to take up the challenge was crazy," Dixon said. She and the team finished sixth.

When she takes up the challenge this week she will not be short of advice. In addition to her husband, Andrew, a marketing consultant, her supporting cast includes her two brothers, Matthew and Nick, both of whom have ridden round Badminton, and her mother, Elaine, a former event rider who has *shaped Dixon's career.*

Dixon has had her share of Badminton mishaps, and reacted characteristically. In 1989 she broke her leg in a fall from Corriwack — but discharged herself from hospital the next day to compete in the showjumping. Two years ago, she had a fall from Stepney Bartholomew at the fourth fence but, still concussed, remounted.

In the quiet of Saturday morning she will walk the route she plans to take with each horse. By then the adrenalin will be flowing: "I just can't wait to get out there."

RADIO CHOICE

The busyness of medicine

The Doctors. *Radio 4 FM, 10.00am.*

If this medical serial does nothing else, it will at least explain why our GPs sometimes lose their cool with us. Clearly, there is something wrong with a health service that expects its overworked practitioners also to be good business administrators. Characters from the previous run of *The Doctors* are reunited in this new serial. They include Dr Sam Benson (Richard O'Sullivan) and Dr Ros Galloway (Amelia Bullmore) who have moved to pastures new in the fictional Warrington. *The Doctors* gets straight down to business. Within two minutes there is a fatal accident *outside* the surgery. Maurice Bessman, a registered nurse, has written a busy and authentic-sounding script.

Evening Concert. *Classic FM, 8.00pm.*

The andante from Mozart's Piano Concert No 21, one of tonight's recordings, fitted Bo Widerberg's tragic love story *Elvira Madigan* like a glove. I am unable to listen to it without scenes from the film flashing on to my mind's eye like coloured slides. In this, the Mozart's No 21 is not unique. I think of *Brief Encounter* and hear Rachmaninov's second piano concerto. I think of *My Brilliant Career and hear Schubert's Kinderscenen.* I cannot hear Mahler's No 5 without seeing Dirk Bogarde dying in Venice. I only wish Beethoven's Choral Symphony did not make me think of *A Clockwork Orange.*

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. **4.00am** Dave Pearce **6.30** Chris Evans **9.00** Simon Mayo **12.00** Wendy Lloyd, incl at **12.30-12.45pm** Newsbeat **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier, incl at **5.30-5.45** Newsbeat **7.00** Evening Session **9.00** Soundbite **10.00** Mark Lamarr **12.00-4.00am** Claire Sturgess

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy with the Early Show **6.15** Pause for Thought **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.15** Pause for Thought **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Anna Ford **2.00pm** Chris Stuart **3.30** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** The News Huddlines: with *Roy Hudd and June* Whitfield **7.30** David Allan **9.00** Paul Jones: guests are Little Watt and Big Bo, a duo from Alabama **9.45** The Gospel Train, from the Church of God of Prophecy, Aberdeen Street, Birmingham **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Steve Madden **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl at **5.45** Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme incl at **6.55** and **7.55** Racing Preview **8.35** The Magazine, incl at **10.00** Film Review; **10.35** Euronews; **11.00** Gut Reaction **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl at **12.34pm** Moneycheck **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at **3.15** Prime Minister's Question Time **4.00** John Inverdale Nationwide **7.00** News, incl at **7.20** sport **7.35** David Gower's Cricket Weekly **8.35** Chris Rea Goes into... Pony Club Games **9.05** SportsAmerica **10.05** Election Special **2.05** Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Samantha Meah, Sean Bolger **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **7.00** Maurice Dee, Carol McGiffen **10.00** Caesar **1.00am** Al Kelly

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **BST. 5.00am** News **5.30** Europe (**MW only**: Off the Shelf **5.45** From Our Own Correspondent) **6.00** News **6.30** Learning (**MW only**: Europe) **6.45** Telltale Tunes (**MW only**: Europe) **7.00** News **7.15** World Today **7.30** Sport **8.00** News **8.15** Farming **8.30** Network UK **9.00** News (**MW only**: News in German) **9.10** Faith (**MW only**: News in German) **9.15** Composer **9.45** Books **10.00** News**10.15** Sport **11.00** News **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Off the Shelf **Noon** News **12.30pm** Beethoven **1.00** News (**MW only**: News in German) **1.15** Britain **1.30** Assignment **2.00** News **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Multitrack **4.00** News **4.05** Sport **4.15** BBC English **4.30** Network UK (**MW only**: News in German) **5.00** News **5.15** To Believe **5.45** Fourth Estate **6.00** News and Business **6.15** Do You Know? **6.30** World Today (**MW only**: News in German) **6.45** Sport (**MW only**: News in German) **7.00** News **7.30** Assignment **8.00** News **9.00** Europe **9.30** Outlook **9.55** Faith **10.00** News **10.15** Britain **10.30** Meridian **11.00** News **11.30** World Today **11.45** Health **Midnight** News **12.10am** Topical Report **12.15** Megamix **12.45** Sport **1.00** News **1.30** On the Move **1.45** Britain **2.00** News **2.15** To Believe or Not to Believe **2.45** Global **3.00** Newsday **3.30** Oliver Twist **4.00** News **4.15** Sport **4.30** Faith

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Barley **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Lunchtime Concerto **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Classic **7.00** Travel Guide **8.00** Evening Concert: See Choice **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Mark Griffiths

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nick Abbot **7.30** Paul Coyte **10.00** Janey Lee Grace **2.00-6.00am** Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.30am Open University: Markets in Russia and China
6.55 Weather
7.00 On Air: Schmelzer (Sonata in A minor for 3 violins, Il Cucu); Bach (Partita No 1 in B flat); Copland (Cuban Dance). **8.05** *Handel Handbook*: Handel (Trio Sonata in G minor, Op 2 No 2); **8.23** Howells (Magnificat for St Paul's Cathedral); Balakirev (Symphonic Poem: Tamara)
9.00 Composers of the Week: Excerpts from the works of Alfred Newman, David Raskin, Hugo Friedhofer and Jerome Moross
10.00 Musical Encounters: Sibelius (Six Humoresques, Op 89); **10.30** Betsy Jolas (Episode 1); Kent Kennan (Night Soliloquy); **10.45** Fauré (Preludes: in A, Op 103 No 7; in C minor, Op 103 No 8); Mendelssohn (Incidental music: A Midsummer Night's Dream, excerpts); Mozart (Symphony No 38 in D, Prague)
12.00 Voices: Commemorating VE Day
1.00pm The BBC Orchestras: Elgar (Symphony No 1 in A flat) (r)
2.00 Schools: Radio Q and A **2.05** In the News **2.25** Something to Think About: Infant Assemblies **2.40** Music Workshop: Music Course 3 Jiving Jukeboxes
3.00 An Outside View: Larry Adler on British music
3.05 The BBC Orchestras: BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Alexander Titov. Vaughan Williams (Fantasia on a Theme of Thomas Tallis); Britten (Serenade for tenor, horn and strings); Arvo Pärt (Cantus in Memory of Benjamin Britten; Te Deum)
4.25 Michael Collins, clarinet; Mikhail Pletnev, piano. Poulenc (Clarinet Sonata); Weber (Grand Duo Concertant, Op 48) (r)
5.00 The Music Machine: Music that is used in witchcraft and healing in Kenya and Tanzania
5.15 In Tune: A special edition from the Sonorities 95 festival in Belfast. Petens Vasks (Cor Anglais Concerto, 2nd movement); Vivaldi, arr Thomas Wilbrandt (Spring, The Four Seasons); Ian Wilson (Winter's Edge)
7.30 Fauré and the French Connection: Olivier Charlier, violin; BBC Philharmonic under Yan Pascal Tortelier Dukas (The Sorcerer's Apprentice); Fauré (Pelléas et Mélisande); Saint-Saëns (Havanaise); **8.15** The Boléro Factory: Gerald Larner looks at the facts behind Ravel's Boléro; **8.35** Fauré (Berceuse, Dolly Suite); Saint-Saëns (Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso); Fauré Pavane, Op 50); Ravel (Boléro)
9.00 Listening in the Dark: With Philip Dodd
9.25 Stravinsky for Two Pianos: Sonata; Concerto; The Rite of Spring: Peter Hill and Benjamin Frith, pianos
10.45 Night Waves: Kenzaburo Oe's new novel, David Hare's new play, *Skylight*
11.30-12.30am Ulster Orchestra: Roussel (Sinfonietta); Maxgnard (Symphony No 3)
1.00-2.00 Night School: Let's Make a Story **1.30** Music Box

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping **6.00** News Briefing **6.10** Farming Today **6.25** *Prayer for the Day*: With the Rev Patrick Baker **6.30** Today incl **7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30** News **7.25, 8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Yesterday in Parliament **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze: Presented by Michael Buerk
10.00-10.30 News; The Doctors (FM only): See Choice
10.00 Daily Service (LW only)
10.15 From Plato to the Present (LW only): Anthony Hyde reads from Boethius's *Consolation of Philosophy*
10.30 Woman's Hour: Introduced by Jenni Murray
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent
12.00 News; You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi
12.25pm Radio Times Past: The flavour of February 1961
12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
2.00 News; Globe Theatre 95: Pan Pals by Peter Tinniswood
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift: With Daire Brehan
4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope: Paul Allen attends a rare staging of Purcell's *King Arthur* at Covent Garden and sees Bernard Kops's new play, *Call in the Night*, at the West Yorkshire Playhouse
4.45 Short Story: Looking Susan Nisbet reads Ellen Lyons's story
5.00 PM, with Jon Sopel and Linda Lewis **5.50** Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News
6.30 Dry Slopes: A four-part comedy series written by and starring Nick Ball
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Going Back: Journalist Yasmin Alibhai-Brown returns to Uganda for the first time to test the racial temperature 20 years after her Ugandan Asian community was expelled by Idi Amin
8.00 The Makers of Modern Politics: Anthony Howard of *The Times* looks at the reputation of Anthony Crosland
8.45 Worse Things Happen at Sea: Ian McIntyre steps back from the fray and offers some fresh observations on the arguments of the day
9.00 Does He Take Sugar? Magazine for listeners with disabilities
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r)
10.00 The World Tonight, with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Carney Palafox: Crawford Logan reads the second part of James Hamilton-Paterson's comic story. Having won the London marathon, Carney puts on an old tweed jacket and tackles a few world records
11.00 Master and Commander: Dramatisation of Patrick O'Brian's Napoleonic seafaring adventure. With Michael Troughton (5/6)
11.30-12.00 The Locker Room (FM only): Tom Robinson asks if macho behaviour begins in childhood (r)
12.00-12.45am News incl **12.27** Weather **12.33** Shipping Forecast **12.45** As World Service (LW only)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2: FM-88-90.2. RADIO 3: FM-90.2-92.4. RADIO 4: 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW 198. RADIO 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LONDON RADIO: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. CAPITAL: 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. GLR: FM 94.9; WORLD SERVICE: MW 648kHz/463m; LW 198Khz (12.45am-5.55am). CLASSIC FM: FM-100-102. VIRGIN: MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. TALK RADIO: MW 1089, 1053kHz. *Listings by Peter Dear, Linda Galloway*

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 38

TOMMY TRADDLES
(b) One of David Copperfield's schoolfellows at Salem House, a cheerful and very honourable boy "in a tight sky-blue suit that made his arms and legs like German sausages". He is always being caned, and consoles himself by drawing skeletons.

JESSE (GAFFER) HEXAM
(a) A waterside character in *Our Mutual Friend*. With his hook nose, bright eyes, and ruffled head, he "bore a certain likeness to a roused bird of prey".

CHAPMAN & HALL
(c) The publishers and booksellers who made Dickens's name and then had their fortunes made by him. In 1836, when they commissioned Dickens to write the words for the illustrated monthly parts of what became *The Pickwick Papers*, they were not established and he was unknown.

MISS HAVISHAM
(a) The weird elderly recluse in *Great Expectations*. Jilted on her wedding morning, she tries to freeze time at the moment of her desertion, and brings up Estella to be the instrument of feminist vengeance on all the male sex by coldly breaking their hearts. Eventually she repents of the harm she has done to Estella and Pip, but she still gets burnt.

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1. Rxg7+! Kxg7: 2. Qg4+ Kh8: 3. Qf5 and Qxh7 mate cannot be prevented.

MATCHES PLAYED 29TH APRIL '95
LITTLEWOODS POOLS
F.A. CUP SPONSOR
THIS WEEK 315,000 PRIZES PAID ON THE NEW 3-2-1 POINTS SCORING SYSTEM
INCLUDING
HIGHLAND LADY £327,670
MICHAEL KILLEN OF HUDDERSFIELD £302,274
PHYLLIS HEATON OF CREWE £291,735
TREBLE CHANCE. MAX. 24 Pts. NO CLAIM WITH 24 Pts. TOP DIV. FOR ONLY 23 Pts.
23 Pts £96,124.95
22 Pts £471.30
21 Pts £32.20
20 Pts £6.25
19 Pts £1.50
4 DRAWS £15.20
10 HOMES (PAID ON 9 HOMES) £503.25
5 AWAYS £1.00
Expenses and Commission 15th April 1995 - 30.5%. All dividends are subject to rejoicing. This week's winnings will be dispatched on Friday.
The points values for matches played 6th May are as follows:-
SCORE DRAW (1-1, 2-2 etc) 3 PTS
NO SCORE DRAW (0-0) OR VOID MATCH 2 PTS
WIN - HOME OR AWAY 1 PT
FOR COUPONS PHONEFREE 0800 800 000 - 24HRS

Hingis brings down first top-five victim

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

MARTINA HINGIS reached the quarter-finals of the Citizen Cup *tennis tournament in* Hamburg yesterday with a stunning 6-1, 2-6, 6-2 victory over Jana Novotna. It was the 14-year-old Swiss player's first win over a player ranked in the world top five.

Hingis could have won more convincingly as she held break points in all but one game. Although Novotna denied that she was nervous, the Czech, the No 3 seed, suggested otherwise as her opening serve landed beyond the baseline, and she went on to produce ten double faults.

Hingis, the world No 60, was by far the more positive player in the first set. Her ground strokes were solid, there was a lethal sting in her shots, and her double-handed backhand had the sluggish Novotna struggling.

It was not until she had saved five break points as the second set got underway that Novotna finally slipped into gear. But the final set saw Hingis regain her discipline.

"In the first set, I couldn't get used to the slow pace and in the second set she made mistakes. In the third, when I *was aggressive, she was going* for her shots and passing me down the line," Novotna said.

Although she was ready to compliment her talented young opponent, Novotna was also cautious in her praise. "She's very good for her age, but not that good," she said. "But she's a smart player. She has a little bit of everything and reads the game quite well.

"But she still has to prove herself. She's beaten a lot of good players, but the first year or two is always easy. Nobody really knows your game and you don't have anything to defend. Let's see what she does in two years' time."

Conchita Martínez, of Spain, also reached the quarter-finals yesterday, defeating Radka Zrubakova, of Slovakia, 6-1, 6-4. Magdalena Maleeva, the fourth seed, exploited several careless errors made by Alexia Dechaume-Balleret, of France, to earn a 6-3, 6-3 victory.

Results, page 44

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket*

FA Carling Premiership
Arsenal v Wimbledon (7.45) .....

Endsleigh Insurance League
Third division
Bury v Walsall (8.0) .....

GM Vauxhall Conference
Dover v Woking (7.45) .....
Kidderminster v Kettering (7.45) .....

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Crawley v Trowbridge; Leek v Dorby, Sudbury v Rushden and Diamonds Southern division: Fareham v Bashley; Newport IoW v Braintree.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Slough v Enfield, Yeading v Harrow. Third division: Canvey Island v Feltham and Hounslow; Collier Row v Harefield.

UNIBOND LEAGUE: President's Cup: Final, second leg: Lancaster City v Witton Albion.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Cockfosters v Amersham.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Arlesey Town v Hoddesdon, Buckingham Athletic v Langford, Potters Bar v Welwyn Garden City; Shillington v Hatfield.

SKOL MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Highgate v Meir KA; Shirley v Wellesbourne; Studley BKL v Sherwood Celtic.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Paget v Oldbury; Knypersley v Shifnal

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Brighton and Hove Albion v Chelsea (2.0). Bristol City v Luton Town. West Ham United v Watford (7.0)

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: West Ham United v Cambridge United. Second division: Tottenham Hotspur v Brantford.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Eastwood v Salford; Skelmersdale v Bradford Park Avenue

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division (7.0): Coventry City v Derby County; Notts County v Wolverhampton Wanderers; Stoke City v Sunderland. Second division: Manchester City v Port Vale (6.45), Newcastle United v Mansfield Town (at Gateshead, 7.0)

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Senior second division: Old Manorians v Old Westhamians

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior first division: Wilson v St Mary's College.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Lowestoft v Halstead.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Chatham v Whitstable, Greenwich v Tunbridge Wells; Kent Police v Darenth Heathside; Thamesmead v Deal

ENGLISH SCHOOLS MATCHES: Full Film Trophy: Final, first leg: South Tyneside v Islington and Camden (at Roker Park, 7.15) South East England under-16 championship: Semi-final: Essex v Middlesex (at MV Dagenham, 6.30).

CRICKET

Britannic Assurance county championship
110, first day of four

CHELMSFORD: Essex v Worcestershire
CARDIFF: Glamorgan v Northamptonshire
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Durham
LEICESTER: Leicestershire v Yorkshire
LORD'S: Middlesex v Hampshire
NOTTINGHAM: Nottinghamshire v Derbyshire
TAUNTON: Somerset v Gloucestershire
HOVE: Sussex v Kent
EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Surrey
BAIN HOGG TROPHY: The Oval: Surrey v Essex.

OTHER SPORT

EQUESTRIANISM: Badminton Horse Trials
TENNIS: Edinburgh: Men's and women's *satellite tournaments.*

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Home is where the 'country style' clutter is

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

To my mind there can be no doubt about the two most frightening words in the English language — stripped pine. I was not, therefore, looking forward last night to **Home Front** (BBC 2) and its exploration of "country style" which, it claimed, "has more fans than any other decorative style". Not in our house, it hasn't.

Call me anal retentive (but I'd prefer it if you didn't) but the sight of doilies and dried flowers, curios and copper, just makes me want to have a good tidy up. Which is a shame, because normally I like *Home Front*. Presented by the slightly dippy but thoroughly decent Tessa Shaw, it is gentle, therapeutic television, a colour supplement that doesn't even ask you to lift your arms to read it.

Hard hitting it is not. "I'm not being rude," said Shaw, a woman for whom incivility is a physical impossibility: "but your house is rather cluttered. Is that a deliberate look?" Her host, a woman for whom incivility looked not only possible but likely, visibly bristled — no easy feat when surrounded by dried teasels. She muttered something about the decorative country look rather than the natural country look and communicating "the ambience of country". One up to Tessa.

But it was a token victory. Shaw was soon happily burbling on about the timelessness of country style. "We could be any time." Just as long as Habitat and Laura Ashley are near by.

Things did look up a little when she visited a couple who lived, I think, in Somerset (basically, everyone in this programme either lived in Somerset or thought they did). "I remember the first time we did it," said the lady of yet another house in need of a good clear-out, "my heart was absolutely pounding and I was shaking with excitement." A spark of metropolitan interest flickered — so Jilly Cooper was right about the West Country after all. Sadly not, it turned out. What gets them going down Taunton way is a good furniture auction. Followed by some vigorous dipping, I expect.

But the really terrifying moment came during the section on quilts. As a selection of quilts old and new was spread before us, the dread words formed on my lips. "Ooh — that's nice." And not just once, but three times! It'll be pre-distressed flower pots and skirts round the telephone table next. I can't bear it.

In fairness, this incipient mid-life crisis probably owed its origin to the programme that preceded *Home Front*, **Seven Wonders of the World** (BBC 2), which came to a marvellous and inspiring conclusion by inviting John Maynard Smith to select his seven wonders.

For those of you who didn't know, Sue Lawley introduced him as "one of Britain's most brilliant scientists". Indeed he is. Maynard Smith is a biologist. But, far more importantly, he is that oxymoron of the scientific world — a numerate biologist. And I mean seriously numerate.

One of his books, I confess, lies in my attic. Its presence haunts me. Now and again, I think about calculating the turning forces required to lever open the trap door to retrieve it but then I quickly realise that I still don't know my arcs from my elbow and give up. One day perhaps.

In short, Maynard Smith has gone where few biologists have gone before and where even fewer can follow. Wisely, the producers allowed us only the briefest glimpse of the equations that have struck terror into the heart of anyone who took up biology because they liked plants and animals. But his enthusiasm for science and the scientific process was a joy to behold, coming as it did some 70 years after he was dubbed Professor Meat-Juice at prep school.

Meat Juice, I mean Maynard Smith, was modest about his own talents. He decided to do biology, he said, because physics was too difficult. As someone who gave up biology because Maynard Smith was too difficult, I sympathised. Physics still fascinates Maynard Smith and the subject played a major role in his seven wonders. How sidewinding snakes move, how albatrosses fly and how the extraordinary Tippe top always ends up spinning on its tip. Could he explain these things without the maths? He doubted it. "Mathematics makes things clear, while words merely muddle, confuse and mess up."

Well, that just leaves me to muddle along with a few more and no doubt we'll all end up as confused as the British legal system appears to be. Last night both BBC 1 and Channel 4 attempted to put right perceived wrongs, with *Rough Justice* and a *Dispatches* investigation into alleged war crimes during the Bangladesh war.

Death in the Playground (BBC 1) did *Rough Justice*'s normal thorough job and suggested there is ample reason for reopening the case against Paul Esslemont, the teenager convicted of murdering three-year-old Carl Kennedy. However, given the key testimony of the trial juror, it did sound as if we needed to hear a little more of the judge's summing-up and perhaps a little less of the sickening forensic evidence.

As for **Dispatches** (Channel 4), it came close to being a kangaroo documentary with an investigation that was powerful, horrifying but unbalanced. If the producers are right about the three men who now live in Britain but who, the programme alleged, collaborated with the Pakistani Army in 1971 to murder, rape and torture their opponents in the then East Pakistan, they have nothing to worry about and deserve congratulation. If they are wrong, both they and Channel 4 will have some very serious explaining to do.

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (61094)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (10127013)

9.05 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (s) (1492839)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7306346) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r). (Ceefax) (1558278)

10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine series (s) (4245742)

12.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (9016810) **12.05 Pebble Mill.** Gloria Hunniford introduces the Syd Lawrence Orchestra, the Beverley Sisters and Jimmy Perry and David Croft (s) (5104907) **12.50 Regional News** and weather (15531162)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (42810) **1.30 Neighbours.** (Ceefax) (s) (20301128)

1.50 Going for Gold. Henry Kelly with another round of the general knowledge quiz with European contestants (s) (26701164)

2.15 FILM: Quest For Love (1971) starring Tom Bell, Joan Collins and Denholm Elliott. A science-fiction drama, based on a novel by John Wyndham, about a scientist who accidentally passes into another dimension on Earth and falls in love. Directed by Ralph Thomas (586452)

3.50 Pingu. A new series of the animated adventures of a clumsy penguin (3298384) **3.55 Why Did the Chicken?** Quiz show presented by Mark Evans (s) (5364013) **4.10 Speed Racer.** (Ceefax) (2028723) **4.35 The Ant and Dec Show.** (Ceefax) (s) (1158891)

5.00 Newsround (7521452) **5.05 The Machine Gunners.** Drama serial set on Tyneside during the Second World War (r). (Ceefax) (1899100)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (560520). **Northern Ireland:** Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (425)

6.30 Regional news magazines (655). **Northern Ireland:** Neighbours

7.00 Top of the Pops. (Ceefax) (s) (9278)

7.30 EastEnders. (Ceefax) (s) (839)

8.00 CHOICE **Wildlife on One: Sea Otters — The Clam Busters.** (Ceefax) (s) (8926)

8.30 CHOICE **Paul Merton's Life of Comedy.** (Ceefax) (s) (7433)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1471)

9.30 News 45: VE-Day. The news of 50 years ago delivered in today's style by Sue Lawley. (Ceefax) (831742)



Lulu is not impressed with Edina (9.45pm)

9.45 CHOICE **Absolutely Fabulous.** (Ceefax) (s) (355029)

10.15 Men Behaving Badly. Comedy series starring Martin Clunes, Neil Morrissey, Leslie Ash and Caroline Quentin (r). (Ceefax) (s) (267810)

10.45 Local Elections 95. David Dimbleby and Peter Snow present the results and an analysis of the voting in 350 councils across England and Wales (11930618). **Northern Ireland** (to 11.20) Spotlight

2.30 Weather (7547414)

BBC2

6.20 Open University

8.00 Breakfast News. (Ceefax and signing) (7480278)

8.15 Westminster On-Line with Andrew Neil (s) (4782920)

9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **10.00-10.25** Playdays (1569384) **2.00** The Little Polar Bear (12453926) **2.05** Hairy Jeremy (12452297)

2.10 Songs of Praise (r). (Ceefax) (s) (3639568) **2.45 Back to Work.** Acupuncture treatments for back pain (7155029)

3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather; **Westminster with Nick Ross.** (Ceefax) (s) (6207723) **3.55 News** (Ceefax) and weather (5296297)

4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (568)

4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (r) (452)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Advice on avoiding conmen and women. (Ceefax) (s) (2007549) **5.40 Glynn Christian's Entertraining Microwave** (r) (s) (551907)

6.00 Quantum Leap (r). (Ceefax) (s) (454592)

6.45 Lifeswaps. An Essex girl exchanges roles with a debutante (r). (Ceefax) (s) (161029)

7.00 The Mrs Merton Show (r). (Ceefax) (s) (1920)

7.30 First Sight: Post War Blues. Jonathan Beale talks to East End survivors of the Blitz. **Wales:** A Bird's Eye View of the Homeless; **East:** Matter of Fact; **Midlands:** Midlands Report; **South:** Southern Eye; **South-west:** Close Up; **West:** Close Up West (181)

8.00 Minders. The fourth in a six-part series from the casebook of a south London community psychiatric team. (Ceefax) (s) (6566)

8.30 Top Gear. (Ceefax) (s) (5075)

9.00 Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin starring Leonard Rossiter (r). (Ceefax) (90 13)

9.30 Go Back Out starring Andrew Lancel and Anita Dobson. A drama about the onset of schizophrenia. (Ceefax) (96094)

10.00 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (195510)



Unlikely hooker Sigourney Weaver (10.40pm)

10.40 FILM: Half Moon Street (1986) starring Sigourney Weaver and Michael Caine. A political thriller about an academic who supplements her meagre income by moonlighting as a high-class prostitute. Directed by Bob Swaim. (Ceefax) (1745568)

12.05am Open University: Open View (8371698) **12.10** Jewish Enigma: Pride and Prejudice (9359308)

12.35 Weather (4079132) **12.40 The Record.** The day in Parliament (s) (7921501). Ends at **1.10**

4.30-5.00 BBC Select: Developing Family Literacy (77650) **5.30-6.00 RCN Nursing Update** (48704)

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CHOICE



Ogoniland demonstrator Ken Saro-Wiwa (C4, 9.00pm)

Delta Force

Channel 4, 9.00pm

"Blood for oil!" "Stop Shell!" say the placards. "Order must be restored in Ogoniland," replies the military. And so — to the anger of Amnesty, the jailed non-violent protestor Ken Saro-Wiwa, and such luminaries as writers Antonia Fraser, Harold Pinter and William Boyd, Nigerian troops have moved in, not for the first time, to "pacify" the protesting Ogoni people on the densely populated Niger delta. Oil drilling has brought big bucks to the Nigerian government and to Shell and other companies on the delta. But their drilling has totally polluted Ogani lakes and ruined their farmland — and they have not been compensated.

Paul Merton's Life of Comedy

BBC1, 8.30pm (not Scotland)

The poker-faced Paul has an encyclopaedic knowledge of comedy and must have jumped at the chance to review his favourite bites and slices down the years since childhood. So must his producers: stringing together classic clips seems the norm these days — guaranteed laughter and nostalgia on a comparatively low budget. To frame his clips Merton has devised a fictional family with Timothy Bateson very funny as Grandad, Tilly Vosburgh as Mother, Jingles as the budgie and himself as, well, himself — and his father. It starts with the arrival at the family home of their first television back in the 1950s. The clips are terrific — especially the seldom-seen visit to Father Christmas by an indignant Arthur Mullard, daughter of six.

Wildlife on One: Sea Otters — The Clam Busters

BBC1, 8.00pm (not Scotland)

An easy option — to sit back and enjoy the sight of sea otters ("The Clam Busters") sitting back, as sea otters do, and busting clams. Easy because the outstanding, almost unwatchable *Animal Detectives* has returned with a devastating report on the trade in rhino horn. The sea otter has been driven almost to extinction, too — by fur trappers. But that is in the past and the Disney-ish creatures, with their dextrous tool-using "hands", are once more proliferating off the coasts of Alaska and California. Oil spillage is an ever-present threat as are bears, coyotes, even bald eagles. Females produce only one pup a year and in California divers are helping orphaned pups to understand what they should be eating and how to get it.

Absolutely Fabulous

BBC1, 9.45pm

It could be argued that choosing AbFab is another easy option. But the series is on a roll, the best yet, and arguably the most original comedy currently on screen. Subtitled *Fear*, this penultimate episode has a disturbing shadow. Writer Jennifer Saunders (Edina) seems to have been introducing a darker element in easy stages — Patsy's ignorance about her own body, Eddy's total inability to cope with anything practical — like opening a can. This is underlined by the absence of Saffy (Julia Sawalha). She *can* open cans — but has now, understandably, left home. The scene where Eddy and Patsy (Joanna Lumley) confront possible loneliness and middle age — admittedly buoyed up by "Bolly" and pot, is a classic. The ageless Lulu plays a cameo role as herself.

Elizabeth Cowley

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (4867742)

9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (8728568) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1546433)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place with John Stapleton (s) (5132568)

10.35 This Morning. Weekday family magazine with Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan (88269520) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (9012094)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (7799452)

12.55 Home and Away (Teletext) (7707471) **1.25 Emmerdale** (r). (Teletext) (16415907)

1.55 A Country Practice (s) (38856033) **2.20 Vanessa** (Teletext) (s) (20570655)

2.50 Gardeners' Diary with John Ravenscroft (2923013) **3.20 ITN News** headlines (Teletext) (4078687) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (5428128)

3.30 The Riddlers (r) (5356094) **3.40 Wizadora** (r) (s) (6187051) **3.50 Garfield and Friends** (8636075) **4.20 Samson Superslug** (Teletext) (s) (2019075) **4.45 Animaniacs** (r). (Teletext) (s) (1172471)

5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating (Teletext) (1890839)

5.40 News (Teletext) and weather (834742)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' video soapbox (755432)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (471)

6.30 London Tonight presented by Alastair Stewart and Fiona Foster. (Teletext) (723)

7.00 Emmerdale (Teletext) (4346)

7.30 3-D presented by Julia Somerville. Includes a report on the violence between pupils and teachers (s) (907)

8.00 The Bill: When Opportunity Knocks. CID want Debbie Kane to work undercover. (Teletext) (3094)

8.30 Heartbeat: Fruits of the Earth. Gentle drama series starring Nick Berry and Niamh Cusack. Nick pursues a moorland flasher (r). (Teletext) (s) (52891)



A species under threat of extinction (9.30pm)

9.30 Animal Detectives: Rhinos. Environmental Investigation Agency investigators discover an enormous stockpile of rhinoceros horn in China. (Teletext) (s) (83520)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (62549)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (301549)

10.40 The Frost Programme. Sir David Frost is joined by ballerina Darcey Bussell (s) (305100)

11.40 Carlton Sport — World League of American Football. Alton Byrd introduces highlights of the match between the London Monarchs and the Barcelona Dragons from White Hart Lane (364278)

12.10am Beyond Reality. A cult leader endeavours to brainwash Laura (r) (8225679)

12.50 Alien Nation (s) (6402563)

1.40 Shift (9828698)

2.35 The Beat with Gary Crowley (r) (s) (8753414)

3.25 The Album Show (r) (s) (9280853)

4.20 On the Live Side featuring Ben Sidran and Chuck Manglone (58347308)

4.35 The Little Picture Show (r) (9180211)

5.30 ITN Morning News (96850). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Spiff and Hercules (7708487)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (32433)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (72926)

9.30 FILM: The Old Curiosity Shop (1934, b/w) starring Hay Petrie, Ben Webster and Elaine Benson. A faithful dramatisation of the Charles Dickens classic, directed by Thomas Bentley (37542161)

11.15 Profiles Of Nature: Ron Parker, Wildlife Artist. The celebrated painter at work (r) (7886617)

11.40 Frozen North (b/w). A 1922 Buster Keaton short (3668988)

12.00 House To House. Political magazine (52162)

12.30 Sesame Street. The guest is Kadeem Hardison (r) (21433) **1.30 The Wonderful Wizard Of Oz** (r) (s) (73301100)

1.55 Joe Brown at Clapham. The story of trains, from Stephenson's *Rocket* to today's high-speed locomotives (r) (25351623)

2.15 FILM: You Were Meant For Me (1948) starring Jeanne Crain and Dan Dailey. Sentimental musical about a bandleader whose career is dashed by the Wall Street crash of 1929. Directed by Lloyd Bacon (598162). Followed by **Loved Ones**

4.00 The Great Outdoors (r). (Teletext) (s) (636)

4.30 Fifteen-To-One. (Teletext) (s) (520)

5.00 Ricki Lake. The guests are teenagers who want their rowing parents to divorce. (Teletext) (s) (6769029)

5.45 Terrytoons. Classic cartoons (831655)

6.00 The Cosby Show. American domestic comedy series (r). (Teletext) (623)

6.30 Saved By The Bell: The College Years. Campus comedy. (Teletext) (365)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (458538) **7.50 Loved Ones** (639810)



England captain Will Carling (centre) (8.00pm)

8.00 Fair Game. In the second of his six-part series on sport, Greg Dyke investigates the state of rugby union. (Teletext) (s) (1636)

8.30 Food File. Last in the food magazine series. (Teletext) (s) (3471)

9.00 CHOICE **Delta Force.** (Teletext) (s) (8407)

10.00 FILM: In the Best Interest Of the Children (1992) starring Sarah Jessica Parker. A fact-based, made-for-television drama about a manic depressive single mother who, after a time in an institution, decides to fight for custody of her five children. Directed by Michael Ray Rhodes. (Teletext) (s) (766574). Followed by **Loved Ones**

11.50 The Kids In the Hall. Canadian comics (r). (Teletext) (s) (352433)

12.20am Dispatches (r) (7517834)

1.20 Gershwin. Alain Resnais's personal portrait of the celebrated composer (r) (s) (1635835)

2.20 FILM: My Body, My Child (1982) starring Vanessa Redgrave. A made-for-television drama about a mother with three grown-up children who discovers she is pregnant but that the medicine she has been taking has very likely damaged the foetus. Directed by Marvin J. Chomsky (883056). Ends at **4.05**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 12.55 Emmerdale (7707471) **1.25** Home and Away (18415907) **1.55-2.20** The Young Doctors (39856033) **2.50-3.20** High Road (2923013) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (1890839) **6.25-7.00** Anglia News (5105668) **10.30** Anglia News and Election Results (4980029) **10.45** Go Fishing (268549) **11.15** The Rugby Warriors (258162) **11.45** The Powers That Be (625891) **12.10am** Anglia Election Special (8356389) **12.20** Say Anything (334327) **2.15** The Beat (7781969) **3.10** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (12022560) **3.40** Quiz Night (24521476) **4.05** On the Live Side (96801037) **4.35** Videoslashion (10990308) **5.00** Vanessa (51124)

CENTRAL

As London except: 2.50-3.20 High Road (2923013) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (1890839) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (101487) **10.40** Crime Stalker (305100) **11.40** The Hidden Room (364278) **12.10am** Election 95 (6773476) **12.40** Profile (7775414) **4.20** Jobfinder (3677292) **5.20** Asian Eye (8322389)

GRANADA

As London except: 12.55-1.25 Shortland Street (7707471) **1.25** Home and Away (51937094) **1.50** Vanessa (85006538) **2.20** Love at First Sight (20570655) **2.50-3.20** Emmerdale (2923013) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (1890839) **6.25** Granada Tonight (510568) **7.00-7.30** Emmerdale (4346) **10.40** The Program (207758) **11.10** Flying Start (759162) **11.40** Granada Tonight Local Election Special (3151599) **12.50am** Alien Nation (6402563) **1.40** Shift (9828698) **2.35** The Beat (8753414) **3.25** The Album Show (9280853) **4.20** On the Live Side (59347308) **4.35** The Little Picture Show (9180211)

HTV WEST

As London except: 12.55 Emmerdale (7707471) **1.25** Home and Away (16415907) **1.55** Vanessa (85456079) **2.25** Gardening Time (20579326) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (6788758) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (1890839) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (723) **10.40** (1890839) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (723) **10.40** (1890839) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (723) **10.40** Cinemascreen Special (207758) **11.10** Election Results Special (2871001) **12.15am** Love at First Sight (8233698)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 6.30-7.00 Wales Tonight (723) **7.30-8.00** Hang out the Washing (907) **10.40** The Infirmary (207758) **11.10** 3-D (759162) **11.40** Welsh Election Special (315159)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (1546433) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (9012094) **12.55** Emmerdale (7707471) **1.25-1.55** Home and Away (16415907) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (2923013) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (5428128) **5.10** Home and Away (1890839) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes - Crimestoppers (746084) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (471) **6.30-7.00** Grass Roots (723) **10.30** Meridian News and Weather (301549) **10.40** Magnum (399549) **11.35** Local Elections (9498669) **12.20am** Say Anything (334327) **2.15** The Beat (7781969) **3.10** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (12022560) **3.40** Quiz Night (24521476) **4.05** On the Live Side (96801037) **4.35** Videoslashion (10990308) **5.00** Freescreen (51124)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 12.55 Emmerdale (7707471) **1.25-1.55** Home and Away (16415907) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (2923013) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (1890839) **5.55** Calendar (618548) **6.30-7.00** Crosswits (723) **10.30** Calendar News and Weather (301549) **10.40** Bat V (839704) **11.25** Calendar Election Special (259617) **12.20am** Prisoner Cell Block H (1478308) **1.15** The Equalizer (5216747) **2.10** America's Top Ten (6236056) **2.40** Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (2364940) **3.10** Saturday Night Out (1425143). **4.40** Jobfinder (8753327)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (32433) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (72926) **9.30** The Old Curiosity Shop (37542161) **11.15** Profiles Of Nature (7886617) **11.40** Frozen North (3668988) **12.00pm** House To House (52162) **12.30** The Herbs (24146) **1.00** Slot Machin (35520) **1.30** Journeyman (74687) **2.00** Romeo And Juliet In Sarajevo (15278) **3.00** Deadline (6097) **3.30** Reid Lake (7555926) **4.15** Future Block (7011723) **4.30** The Cosby Show (520) **5.00** 5 Pump (8527029). **5.15** 5 Pump (8931439) **5.30** Fifteen To One (100) **6.00** Newyddion (475094) **6.15** Heno (226617) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (2988) **7.30** Margaret (71452) **8.30** Newyddion (3471) **9.00** Troeon Arch Aigyfodedi (4181) **9.30** Father Ted (81182) **10.00** Paper Mask (764075) **11.55** The Goldring Audit (692433)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am DJ Kat 7.00 Jayce (94297) **7.30** Teenage Hero Turtles (73704) **8.00** Power Rangers (19471) **8.30** Blockbusters (18742) **9.00** Oprah Winfrey (42471) **10.00** Concentration (65297) **10.30** Card Sharks (42536) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (82452) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (92756) **12.30pm** Anything But Love (36094) **1.00** The Walkins (33549) **2.00** Matlock (66926) **3.00** Oprah Winfrey (4120471) **3.45** DJ Kat (93096655) **3.55** Teenage Hero Turtles (85923448) **4.30** Power Rangers (1384) **5.00** Deep Space Nine (4365) **6.00** Spellbound (9549) **6.30** Family Ties (6029) **7.00** Rescue (5084) **7.30** M*A*S*H (2013) **8.00** Highlander (63704) **9.00** Under Suspicion (83566) **10.00** Deep Space Nine (86655) **11.00** David Letterman (801094) **11.59** The Untouchables (405094) **12.45am** Chances (7845501) **1.30** WKRP (37105) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix (4349306)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour 6.00am Sunrise (2578988) **9.30** Extra (40184) **10.30** ABC Nightline (96520) **1.30pm** CBS News (82985) **2.30** Parliament Live (99991) **5.00** Live at Five (8731181) **6.05** Richard Littlejohn (5289891) **7.30** O.J. Simpson (8688810) **12.30am** CBS News (6364921) **1.10** Richard Littlejohn (8606327) **2.30** Parliament Replay (14563) **4.30** CBS News (68414) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (36650)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (8892510) **10.00** California Man (1992) (32810) **12.00** Konrad (1987) (43029) **2.00pm** Sacred Ground (1983) (77907) **4.00** Seven Days in May (1964) (8297) **6.00** California Man (1992) As 10am (29520) **7.30** El News Week In Review (7181) **8.00** Singles (1992) (69988) **10.00** Falling Down (1993) (319549) **11.55** The Breakthrough (1993) (3164897) **1.30am** The Carpetbaggers (1964) (27419495) **3.55-5.15** Payday (1972) (74398105)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

2.00pm Showcase (48029) **4.00** Step Lively (1944) (10239) **6.00** Them! (1954) (53365) **8.00** Taps (1981) (74201520) **10.10** The Verdict (1982) (72361891) **12.20-2.00am** Dracula AD 1972 (1972) (401698)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Call Northside 777 (1948) (98549) **8.00** 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea (1985) (43365) **9.30** Black Arrow (1988) (35181) **10.00** Sailor Beware (1952) (30452) **12.00** Let's Make Love (1960) (61471) **2.00pm** A Tree Grows In Brooklyn (1945) (65795278) **4.10** 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea (1985): As 8am (5996461) **5.05** Black Arrow (1988): As 9am (6888346) **6.00** This Can't Be Love (1993) (88013) **8.00** Much Ado About Nothing (1993) (63758) **10.00** Nightbreed (1990) (698568) **11.45** The Red Shoe Diaries: Double Dare (1992) (212617) **1.20am** Rich In Love (1993) (479230) **3.05-5.00** Knight Moves (1993) (84497292)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Soccer News (3041100) **7.15** WWF Challenge (707013) **8.15** Soccer News (1925487) **8.30** Ryder Cup Countdown (38723) **9.00** Get Your Handicap Down (27075) **9.30** Aerobics (58487) **10.00** Rugby (2011723) **10.45** Fish Tales (1024920) **11.00** Pavilion End (28810) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (47838) **12.30pm** Cricket Highlights (97891) **2.00** Powerboat World (5984) **2.30** Opposite Lock (35549) **4.30** Get Your Handicap Down (5588) **5.00** WWF Action (3891) **6.00** Soccer (548542) **6.15** Fish Tales (538704) **6.30** Rugby Union (5933) **7.00** Schoolboy Football, Live (18891) **9.00** Pole Position (12094) **10.00** Soccer News (987655) **10.15** Transworld Sport (467487) **11.15** Cricket Highlights (356723) **12.45am** Live Schoolboy Football (712414)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Handball (79520) **9.00** Eurofun (45471) **9.30** Ice Hockey (90839) **11.30** Motorcycling Magazine (75029) **12.00** Formula One (32907) **12.30pm** Football (58549) **2.30** Modern Pentathlon (3100) **3.00** Tennis (4807) **3.30** Eurofun (2617) **4.00** Duathlon (85452) **5.00** Mountainbike (9452) **5.30** Rally (73162) **6.30** News (5181) **7.00** Combat Sports (18278) **8.00** Pro Wrestling (27628) **9.00** Boxing (60902) **10.00** Darts (17548) **11.00** Snooker (32471) **12.00-12.30am** News (93501)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (1329278) **8.30** Peyton Place (1328549) **9.00** As the World Turns (9926433) **10.00** Guiding Light (8895452) **11.00-12.00** Another World (8896181)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Globetrotter (1322385) **12.30pm** Boomerang (4553013) **1.00** Video (8886704) **1.30** Restaurant Show (4552384) **2.00** Australia (7030704) **2.30** Europe (9117075) **3.00** America (1075636) **4.00** Sky Travel Guide (9131655) **4.30** Boomerang (9137899) **5.00** Caribbean (7054384) **5.30** The Restaurant Show (9111891) **6.00** Europe (9118704) **6.30** Ben Cropp Presents Raging Thunder (5692433) **7.30** Australia (9138568) **8.00** Around the World (7050568) **8.30** Sky Travel Guide (7039075) **9.00** Globetrotter (1083655) **9.30** Ben Cropp Presents Raging Thunder (3681704) **10.30** Caribbean (1332742) **11.00** America (1088100) **11.30-12.00** Cruising (8408278)

TLC

9.00am Craftwise (7086617) **9.30** Cooking with Kurma (7308162) **10.00** Furniture to Go (6273094) **10.30** Jimmy's (7190029) **11.00** Only Human (8769100) **12.00** Short, Sharp Shock! (2353723) **12.45pm** Draw with Don (3471828). **1.00** Cooking with Kurma (4969848) **1.30** Craftwise (7318549) **2.00** General Practice (6712075) **2.30** Frontiers (5594471) **3.00** Green Fingers (8724810) **3.30-4.00** Furniture to Go (5573998)

UK GOLD

7.00am Little Lord Fauntleroy (1718425) **7.30** Neighbours (2264510) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (7000452) **8.30** EastEnders (7009723) **9.00** The Bill (7090075) **9.30** Coldiz (9089520) **10.30** Angels (85733636) **11.35** Going for Gold **12.00** Sons and Daughters (7010839) **12.30pm** Neighbours (7311636) **1.00** EastEnders (2169966) **1.30** The Bill (7310907) **2.00** Father, Dear Father (8714433) **2.30** Life Without George (5876029) **3.00** Knots Landing (3509452) **4.00** Dallas (3891487) **5.00** Going for Gold **8.25** XYZ (34789029) **5.50** Hi-De-Hi (1734348) **6.30** EastEnders (5588810) **7.00** The Two Ronnies (1360278) **7.50** I Didn't Know You Cared (3103278) **8.20** Some Mothers Do 'Ave 'Em (4004161) **9.00** Minder (2737723) **10.00** The Bill (7011568) **10.30** Top of the Pops (1997742) **11.05** Carrott's Lib (1466487) **11.55** Dr Who (9063617) **12.25am** FILM: Lonely Hearts (1961) (1363143) **2.05** Shopping

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (94384) **7.00** Sonic (63826) **7.30** Creepy Crawlers (42433) **8.00** Degrassi (64520) **8.30** Super Mario (3347988) **8.45** Casper (3368471) **9.00** Sesame Street (94425) **10.00** Tiny TCC (98991) **10.20** Madeline (74907) **12.30pm** Tiny TCC (98181) **2.30** Barney (1704) **3.00** Dinobabies (3297) **3.30** Sonic (3549) **4.00** California (5384) **4.30-5.00** Degrassi (1568)

NICKELODEON

7.00am NickAlive (3049742) **7.15** Where on Earth is Carmen Sandiego? (721433) **7.45** Rugrats (720704) **8.15** Grimmy (813986) **8.45** NickAlive (7467100) **9.00** Nick Jr (618094) **12.00** Where on Earth is Carmen Sandiego? (38181) **12.30pm** Pee-Wee's Playhouse (54617) **1.00** Smoggies (35568) **1.30** Smoggie (63986) **2.00** Denver the Last Dinosaur (83446) **2.30** Galaxy High School (23446) **3.00** The Ferals (48221) **3.30** The Secret World of Alex Mack (88811) **4.00** Grimmy (7926). **4.30** Rugrats (88110) **5.00** Clarissa (23268) **5.30** NickAlive, including Ren and Stimpy (71162) **6.00** Rocko (4075) **6.30-7.00** Pete and Pete (8656)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm From the Horse's Mouth (55857233) **4.30** Nature Watch with Julian Pettifer (55811907) **5.00** Wings Over the World (87151622) **6.00** Invention (98810079) **6.35** Beyond 2000 (34464587) **7.30** Valhalla (55828365) **8.00** Out of the Past (26280029) **9.00** Victory (27353985) **10.00** Victory (27384823) **11.00** Spirit of Survival (36907058) **11.30-12.00** The Arctic (62792278)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: The Battle of the Sexes (1960): Peter Sellers comedy (1596810) **1.30pm** Death Valley Days (7305075) **2.00** thirtysomething (62735481) **3.00** The Adventures of Robin Hood (87286636) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (55937742) **4.00** FILM: Saturday Island (1952): Tab Hunter and Linda Darnell find romance (17664723) **5.45** Torchy the Battery Boy (6390758) **6.00** Get Smart (55869826) **6.30** Zoo Gang (14868891) **7.30** The Adventures of Robin Hood (5579162) **8.00** thirtysomething (27426855) **9.00** The Critic (35196939) **9.30** Madmen of the People (73265588) **10.00** FILM: Rasputin — The Mad Monk (1966). With Christopher Lee (66144471) **11.45-12.00** Muffin the Mule (70439029)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (40279266) **7.00** Living Magazine (75021592) **9.00** Health UK (40029266) **9.30** Kate and Allie (54542778) **10.05** The Treatment (23970705) **10.35** The Susan Powter Show (70186742) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (51106368) **11.55** The Simple Programme (39593617) **12.00** Kilroy (6525487) **12.55pm** Food and Drink (1805617) **1.30** The New Mr and Mrs Show (2384182) **2.00** Agony Hour (72935520) **3.00** Living Magazine (96344452) **4.00** Intatuation (27816636) **4.30** Crosswits (84855911) **5.05** The Joker's Wild (75708162) **5.30** Mastarchef (75275988) **6.05** The Susan Powter Show (32988639) **6.30** Brookside (64786655) **7.05** Crosswits (17238623) **7.35** The Joker's Wild (69835520) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (61795498) **8.55** The Simple Programme (78118911) **9.00** FILM: Shattered Vows (1984) (57744433) **11.00** Brookside (9821988) **11.30-12.00** Intatuation UK (7298075)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Dangermouse (8742) **5.30** Adventures of Black Beauty (5520) **6.00** My Two Dads (2433) **6.30** Catchphrase (6013) **7.00** Busman's Holiday (5278) **7.30** Me and the Boys (2297) **8.00** Heirs of the West (67568) **9.00** Sirens (47704) **10.00** Trivial Pursuit (75636) **10.30** Dangermouse (84384) **11.00** Lou Grant (49348) **12.00** Zorro (35501) **12.30** Me and the Boys (90940) **1.00** Trivial Pursuit (11116) **1.30** Rhoda (13563) **2.00pm** Sirens (69230) **3.00** Lou Grant (94747) **4.00** Rhoda (90256) **4.30-5.00** Zorro (86921)

MTV

5.00am Awake on the Wildside (56501) **6.30** The Grind (12704) **7.00** 3 from 1 (48212297) **7.15** Awake on the Wildside (59260113) **8.00** VJ Ingo (415433) **11.00** Soul (60539) **12.00** Greatest Hits

RUGBY UNION 43
BATH'S LEADING LIGHT PREPARES TO HAND OVER THE TORCH

SPORT

EQUESTRIANISM 46
TODD SITTING PRETTY IN BID TO RETAIN BADMINTON TITLE

THURSDAY MAY 4 1995

Three wickets tumble after lunch as West Indian resistance falls away

Australia almost on top of the world

FROM SIMON WILDE IN KINGSTON, JAMAICA

AUSTRALIA were on the verge of an historic victory shortly after lunch on the penultimate day of the fourth and final Test match here yesterday. Starting the day needing seven more wickets to complete the first series defeat of West Indies since 1980, they had to be content with just one before lunch, albeit that of Jimmy Adams, but three more shortly after the interval took them within sight of the finish.

At lunch, West Indies had moved from 63 for three to 128 for four, still 138 runs behind, with Winston Benjamin, the nightwatchman, providing some unexpected and unorthodox resistance on 45 not out. But, inside five overs of the afternoon session, the lunch pair of Benjamin and Hooper were both out. Benjamin one ball after reaching his second half-century in Test cricket, Hooper suicidally run out going for a second run on Julian's left arm.

Six overs later, Arthurton responded to the return of Warne by driving the leg-spinner for four then pulling him for six in successive balls; the next ball, however, he was leg-before, padding up, to leave West Indies on 166 for seven.

Australia must have been confident of wrapping up the match yesterday once they awoke to see that the thunderstorms that had soaked Kingston the previous day had given way to blue skies. There was little local enthusiasm for the last rites, the crowd numbering barely 2,000.

The Australians among them were made to wait over an hour for the first success, although their team could have dismissed both overnight batsmen within the first 13 balls of the start. Reiffel took the first over and, with his second ball, found the outside edge of Adams' bat only for Healy to drop a straightforward chance low to his left.

To the first ball of Reiffel's second over, Benjamin attempted an extravagant cover drive but contrived only to make marginal contact and the ball flew between the heads of first and second slip.

With Reiffel losing heart at these setbacks and Warne finding his line elusive to a left and right-handed partnership, Adams and Benjamin found life relatively easy. Adams, who has been out to Warne only once in seven Tests, had scored only five of the 33 runs added. But to the first ball after the resumption, McGrath had him well caught in the gully by Steve Waugh.

Benjamin had little idea how to play Warne but the leg-spinner was finding so much turn and bounce that his task was not simple. Nor was it for his team-mates.

Healy took so many balls up in front of his face that he took the extraordinary but sensible decision to don a helmet, perhaps the first time that a wicketkeeper had worn a helmet at this level.

Warne was taken off after a ten-over spell that cost only 18 runs. His replacement, Steve Waugh, thought he had claimed the second wicket of the day just before lunch, but a concerted appeal by the close fielders for a catch down the leg-side against Benjamin, on 43, was turned down.

While defeat here would unquestionably end the reign of West Indies as unofficial but undisputed world champions, it would not automatically mean Australia succeeding to the title. In the past four years they have won Test series against India, Sri Lanka, England and New Zealand but not Pakistan or South Africa.

Indeed, when Australia toured Pakistan last year, they lost a three-match series 1-0. However, even Salim Malik, who captained Pakistan then, said that Australia had batted and bowled better and, since then, confusion and scandal has engulfed both Salim and Pakistan cricket.

Australia will be confident of beating whatever sort of side Pakistan send is later this year. A tougher obstacle will be South Africa. The countries are next scheduled to meet late in 1997, but Australia should beware. Ali Bacher, South African cricket's guiding spirit, has been saying for some time that his country will be cricket's leading power by the end of the century.

Come what may, Australia's Caribbean tour may be judged as the point at which a very good side made the transition to a great one. It would be the culmination of a long-term strategy begun in 1987 and for which Allan Border and Bob Simpson deserve much credit. Both were on the ground yesterday to see the fulfilment of a long-held dream.



Healy, the Australia wicketkeeper, watches in dismay as Benjamin survives another delivery from Warne on the fourth morning of the final Test in Jamaica. Photograph: Gill Allen

SCOREBOARD

WEST INDIES: First Innings 265 (R B Richardson 100, B C Lara 65)

Second Innings

S C Williams b Reiffel	20
*R B Richardson c and b Reiffel	14
B C Lara lbw b Reiffel	0
J C Adams c S R Waugh b McGrath	18
W K M Benjamin lbw b Reiffel	51
C L Hooper run out	13
†K L T Arthurton lbw b Warne	14
†C Browne not out	11
C E L Ambrose not out	0
Extras	25
Total (7 wkts)	166

C A Walsh and K C G Benjamin to bat

FALL OF WICKETS 1-37, 2-37, 3-46, 4-98, 5-134, 6-140, 7-166.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 531 (S R Waugh 200, M E Waugh 126, G S Blewett 69).

Umpires: S Bucknor and C Liebenberg

Lord's to permit screening of video replays

BY JOHN GOODBODY

MCC will break with tradition and allow a video screen to show action replays during the second Test match against the West Indies, which begins on June 22.

Members were told of the experiment at the club's annual meeting yesterday. The screen, which will have an area of 54 square metres, will be situated above the Edrich stand at the Nursery End of the ground.

"Anyone who has visited Melbourne will know of the immense attraction that the replay screen provides," Sir Oliver Popplewell, the club president, said. "We shall simply see how it operates, but if it is anything like as good as at Melbourne, it will be an enormously-welcome addition to the facilities at the club."

Under the regulations of the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) leg-before decisions will not get a second viewing and there will also be no replays from the moment a bowler begins his run until the ball is dead.

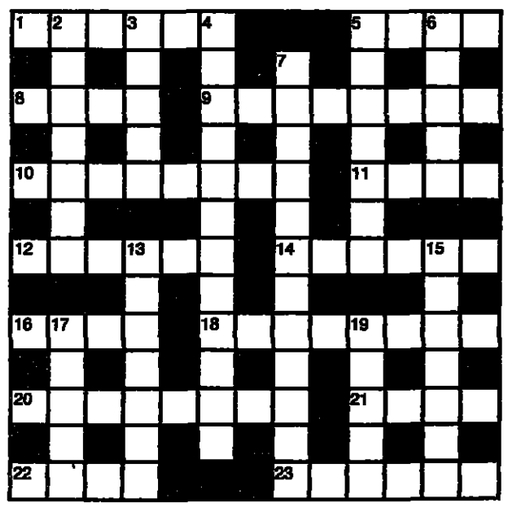
A screen has been used at the Oval since 1991 and last year similar facilities were also available at Old Trafford and Headingley. These employed the Starvision system. But the ones to be installed at Lord's and the Oval this year will be Jumbotron screens, which are brighter and have superior picture definition.

The screen at Lord's will be sponsored by Citroen UK but no advertisements will be shown, Rob Mason, a spokesman for Citroen, said. About three-quarters of the spectators will be able to see the screen without difficulty. The pictures will be taken from the BBC. Mason added that research by the TCCB had found that the majority of spectators were "very much in favour" of screens at grounds.

Roger Knight, the MCC secretary, said: "The members were very positive. They are quite looking forward to the trial, since the screen can be used not only for replays but for information and scoring."

The new indoor cricket school at Lord's is scheduled to open by mid-July and new offices for the TCCB should soon be under construction. There is talk of increasing the ground's capacity by redesigning the Grandstand.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 462

ACROSS

1 Sports grounds (6)
5 Hit high: roof space (4)
8 Wheedle (4)
9 Instrument: Nanki-poo's, in disguise (8)
10 Wearying (8)
11 Cash-drawer; plough (4)
12 Stone cut for building (6)
14 Beat; party (6)
16 Withhold; prop (4)
18 Acquired; improved; reprimanded (6,2)
20 Waterfall (8)
21 Gap; without effect (4)
22 Indication (4)
23 Removing moisture; forgetting lines (6)

DOWN

2 Equatorial regions (7)
3 Campers' pot: US Deep South (5)
4 Sporting incident shown over and over (6,6)
5 Crustacean, had Quadrille (7)
6 Last (round) (5)
7 Tamed, house-trained (12)
13 Reveal, expose (3,4)
15 Like a lizard (7)
17 Pull net to catch fish (5)
19 Diplomat; final verse stanza (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 461

ACROSS: 1 Highbrow 5 Waif 8 Delta 9 Cockade 11 Ash 12 Killarney 13 Tippet 15 Hiatus 18 Confusion 19 Jim 20 Moneyed 21 Avian 22 Stew 23 Pell-mell

DOWN: 1 Hydrant 2 Gulch 3 Black Beauty 4 On call 6 Against 7 Fiery 10 Clarion call 14 Penance 16 Seminal 17 Kindle 18 Camus 19 Juice

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Managers demand better protection

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE League Managers' Association (LMA) is seeking talks with the Football Association in an effort to provide better protection for its members. And the LMA said it is adamant that stiffer punishments must be imposed by the courts to rid the game of its yob culture, in statements yesterday.

The association dismissed the £50 fine imposed on the man who spat at Graham Taylor as "a joke", saying it was no deterrent. Robert Hollister, the Sheffield United supporter, who attacked the Wolverhampton Wanderers manager last month at Bramall Lane, was also banned from the ground for a year.

Jim Smith, the LMA chief executive, said: "We voiced our concerns about safety to the FA two years ago. Now we want to sit down with them and discuss the situation. We don't feel there is a major problem within the game. But one incident is one too many.

"We feel the fine is derogatory. It is a joke. Surely the punishment should have been more severe. It was obviously a premeditated attack because Graham Taylor had to walk the length of the pitch from dug-out to dressing room."

The talks, due at Lancaster Gate, will form part of the FA's new anti-racism and anti-intimidation campaign, designed to help provide a safe haven for managers and players. "We will be speaking to the LMA and other football bodies as part of the campaign," the FA confirmed.

"We want to improve the atmosphere, not just on the terraces and the pitch, but all around the ground. We will be working alongside the Campaign For Racial Equality."

In addition, Sheffield United have promised that the situation regarding Hollister will be reviewed in 12 months, but Dave Bassett, the club manager, has stated the man must serve a life ban.

□ Bayern Munich had two Bundesliga points deducted yesterday for fielding too many amateur players in a league game last month. The Bayern manager, Uli Hoeness, said he will appeal.

In a match against Eintracht Frankfurt on April 15, Bayern fielded four amateurs instead of the three permitted. They still won 5-2. The ruling drops them to sixth spot and may cost them a place in Europe.

Piggott rides out fall from grace

Julian Muscat says the legend lives on despite talk of the former champion jockey retiring

IT WAS Elton John who sang of Marilyn Monroe: "The candle burned out long before the legend ever did." So it is with the career of Lester Piggott, long since shunned by Britain's racehorse trainers. Piggott, 59, is despondent with the drought and has talked tantalisingly of retirement — for the second time.

It is not so much a matter of choice. Rather, that it may be forced upon him by the belief in racing circles that his best days are behind him. His predicament is illustrated by the meagre 19 winners he rode last season. However, if his riding career is thought to have lapsed, Piggott's legend still burns brightly.

The rumour mill has been churning since Piggott allowed his British riding licence to lapse in March. And he has not applied to the Jockey Club for its renewal. "There is not a lot for me here [in Britain]," Piggott said. "I'll have to decide whether it is worth carrying on; whether I want to have the odd ride, or not at all."

However, no sooner had "the maestro" spoken than his wife, Susan, dismissed talk of his retirement as "premature". Piggott, 12 times the champion jockey, was simply putting his feet up after a successful winter schedule in Singapore, Chile, Australia and Dubai.



Piggott: gone to ground

"He will be back later this year," Mrs Piggott said yesterday. "He is just taking a breather after a busy few months' riding overseas." In time-honoured fashion, Piggott had gone to ground.

It was ever thus for the riding phenomenon who, aged 12, standing 4ft 6in tall and weighing less than 5st, recorded his first win at Haydock Park in 1948. More than 4,000 winners later, Piggott rode off into the sunset on the back of a lucrative retirement evening at Nottingham racecourse in 1986.

He returned after four years — a period during which he served a prison sentence for tax evasion — to capture the Breeders' Cup Mile aboard Royal Academy, trained by his long-time ally, Vincent O'Brien. It was on O'Brien's prompting, a month earlier, that Piggott returned from his riding exile. But there were to be no additions to his record nine Derby victories, no renaissance in his ailing fortunes.

His telephone, once the preserve of trainers begging for his services, had become a silent companion. Time had caught up with his unique riding skills.

Piggott will be at Newmarket for the 2,000 Guineas on Saturday, but only as a spectator. Ten years ago, Kevin Darley, who rides the odds-on favourite, Celtic Swing, would have lived in fear of his replacement by Piggott. As it is, Darley will have lost no sleep. The threat is no longer exists.

John Dunlop, the trainer for whom Piggott rode Circus Plume to win the Oaks in 1984, spoke for many when he said yesterday: "I'd love to see Lester back in the saddle but it is unrealistic to think it could happen. He was a hero of mine when I started training 30 years ago."

Racing, page 45



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